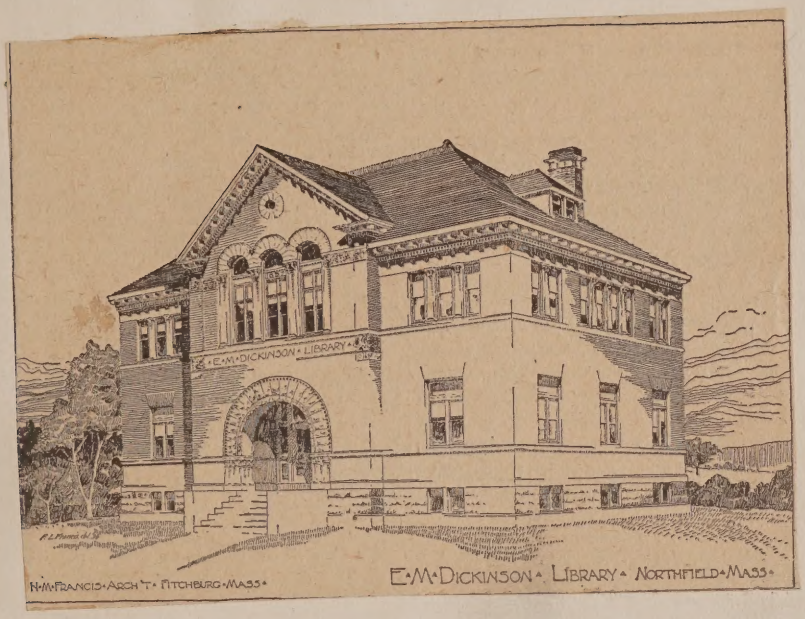
Northfield Public Library.

Minutes of the Trustees

1898.



MELVIL DEWEY,
Secretary University State of New York and Director State Library.

Minutes of the Trustees of the Public Library of Northfield, Mass.

April 1, 1898.

The first meeting of the library trustees of the Northfield Public Library held in its new building occurred at 7.30 P.M. of April 1, 1898. There were present the three members of last year's board, viz; Dr N.P. Wood, Chairman, Rev Geo F. Piper, & Henry W. Rankin; also the three additional members elected at the last Town meeting viz; Charles H. Green, Henry W. Montague, & Mrs Martha A. Caldwell.

The newly constituted board of six members proceeded to organize by the election of officers and committees, with the following result:

Dr N.P. Wood, Chairman.
H. W. Rankin, Secretary
Ch. H. Green, Treasurer

Executive Committee
Green, Wood and Montague

Book Committee
Piper, Rankin & Mrs Caldwell.

A discussion then followed upon various matters. It was decided to leave to the executive Committee the selection & employment of a librarian & janitor; to Rev E-T. Piper the correspondence regarding a cataloguer who should prepare a complete new catalogue of the library upon the Dewey system during the present season. Also discussed was the ~~collection~~ matter of collecting relics, & the arrangement for a loan art exhibition for the opening day of the new building. The latter was left to Dr Wood & H. W. Rankin. Mr Pike was requested to write & send for publication in The Greenfield Gazette a letter appealing to all persons interested in Northfield, present & former residents, & others, for relics & gifts of any sort that would aid in forming a permanent collection of value to the uses of the library. This he consented to do. The meeting adjourned to be called again in about two weeks.

H. W. Rankin, Sec.

April 16. 1898.

The trustees all present. Mr Piper reports upon his correspondence in reference to the employment of Mr Maynard as cataloguer. Dr Wood is requested to write to the librarian of Dartmouth College in reference to the qualifications of Mrs Ferguson as Cataloguer. A general discussion ensued regarding the collection of relics, and then upon opening-day. (The letter publ'd in the Gazette requesting gifts & loans is given herewith.) It was voted that the Northfd Library join the Library Art Club; that Mr Green confer with Mr Dickinson to learn his views & wishes about the public opening of the building; that Mr Rankin see Mr Phillips about music for the day of Dedication; that the executive committee secure showcases for the use of collections on that occasion; that we adjourn to meet April 25 proy. at 2.30 P.M.

H. W. K. Sec.

APRIL 9, 1898.

Northfield—The Dickinson Memorial Library.

To the Editor of the Gazette & Courier:

I have been requested by the trustees of the Dickinson Memorial library to take this method of soliciting relics, works of art, and specimens of natural history for the magnificent building erected at an expense of about $20,000, by E. M. Dickinson of Fitchburg, a native of Northfield. In the second story of this building are a hall, about 40x30 feet, and three smaller rooms intended for the display of whatever suitable works of nature and art may be contributed or loaned. The trustees would be glad to place in the building, either permanently or temporarily, such old-time articles as a spinning-wheel, a flax-wheel, a hand-loom, a reel, a tin-kitchen, a foot-stove, a warming-pan, and a pair of andirons. Old coins, old china, old pewter, old military dresses, arms, and accoutrements, silhouettes, autographs, samplers, and articles of clothing worn by those of earlier generations, will be gratefully received. Indian relics, of which this region was once full, are particularly desired. On the walls of the hall and adjoining rooms is abundant space for pictures. All articles will be labelled with the name of the donor or lender, and a proper receipt given for every loan made. Protection under glass will be afforded every article needing it. It is hoped that by early June, when the building will be dedicated, a commendable display of articles of the kind named above will be made, through the generosity and public spirit of our citizens and of those interested in the town, but no longer living here. Any person having articles to give or lend may communicate with Dr. N. P. Wood, or the writer of this appeal.

GEO. F. PIPER, for the trustees.

April 25, 1898. 2.30 P.M.

All present but Mr Montague. Dr Wood reports correspondence in reference to ~~Mr Carpenter~~ Mr. Ferguson. Moved by Mr Green & voted that Mr Maynard be secured to catalogue the books. Voted that Executive Committee finish up at once the furnishing of the building. A general discussion ensues upon Dedication. Mr Green reads a letter from Mr Dickinson upon the arrangements in question, leaving the date & most matters to the decision of the Board. Voted that the publication dedication of the new building take place on the 10th of June next, & that Mr Piper make up the Programme for that day. Adjourn to meet on May 9.

H. W. Rankin. Secy

May 9, 2,30 P.M.

All present. Mr Piper reports Correspondence with Mr Dickinson in reference to dedication. Discussion of this matter, time, place & programme. Mr Piper reports that Mr Maynard has

been engaged to catalogue the books, to be paid $175. (He is an expert librarian, and will at once begin work keeping at it through the summer till it is finished.) Mr Pike also reports on the methods of preserving old documents. Voted that he be requested to interview George Sheldon of Deerfield about the return of Northfield relics in that place; that Mr Rankin see about the music on opening day; that all books belonging to the library & now in circulation be called in. Adjourned to meet at 2 P.M. tomorrow.

H. W. R. Lecy

May 10, 2 P.M.

An informal meeting of the trustees with Mr Dickinson in the library to discuss Dedication Day. Mr Pike is authorized to arrange for mounting old documents which the library may receive. ~~Voted~~ Adjourned to meet next Monday, May 16.

H. W. R. Lecy.

May 16, 2.30 P.M. 1898.

All present. Date of opening changed by vote to June 9. The following votes were passed:

That the chairman order invitations printed; that a collation be provided exclusively for invited guests, & for those who take part in the exercises; That Mrs Ecca Mason & Mrs Ella Hatton be asked to prepare and manage the collation; That selection of Chaplain be left to the Chairman & Mr Piper; That the following persons be asked to speak at the dedication - D. L. Moody, Rev T. Slemmons Atkins of Greenfield, W. L. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College, and C. B. Tillinghast,

Adjourned to May 31. prox.

H. W. Rankin, Secy.

May 31, 1898, 2.30 P.M.

Present all except Mr Green. A discussion of the programme for Dedication. On order for this is proposed by Dr Wood and unanimously adopted.

Mr Piper reports on a book to be made for the insertion & preservation of old documents; also on the Cataloguer who will begin work immediately after Dedication. Votes that the library be opened regularly on the afternoon and evening of every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, at the hours of 2 to 5.30, & 6.30 to 9 P.M. Adjourned to meet on June 6 at same hour.

H. W. R. Lacy

Church notice.

Read in the churches, Sunday May 22,

The formal opening of the Dickinson Memorial Library Building will occur on the 9th of June; but during the present week there will be a preliminary Art Exhibition on the afternoons of Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday, between the hours of 2 and 6.

The Exhibition occurred, and was well attended. The pictures comprised a loan collection of large photographs

from the Library Art-Club, showing views of the new Congressional library, Washington; also some 400 mounted prints from the Seminary, & a set of large selected photogravures ~~from~~ issued by the Ladies' Home Journal, & bought for the library.

June 6, 1898.

The final mtg of the Board prior to the public dedication of the new Library building. All present. A reception committee for the opening day was designated. (See Programme) The arrangements for music were reported; ~~Dr~~ the public schools to furnish one or more patriotic songs, and the Seminary choir some pieces vocal & piano. Also Mrs W. R. Moody to sing. All final arrangements were reported.

Gazette & Courier.

GREENFIELD, JUNE 11, 1898.

10

Dedicatory Exercises

of the Dickinson Memorial Library in Northfield on Thursday.

Never was the beautiful town of Northfield more attractive than on this eventful day of its history, the dedication day of the Dickinson Memorial Library. The rain of the previous night settled the dust and freshened the foliage and certainly Nature was perfectly attuned for the occasion.

At 10 o'clock, the library building was thrown open to the public, large numbers arriving by train, carriage and bicycle, many of them being friends of Mr. Dickinson in his Fitchburg home and many of his boyhoods friends.

On the arrival of the 12.30 train, dinner was served by the women of the town in the vestry of the Congregational church. At two o'clock the president of the day called the meeting to order and called upon Rev. G. Glenn Atkins to pronounce the invocation. The children of the public schools sang a fine selection.

Rev. Dr. Scofield said in his introductory address, that the son of Arnold of Rugby, the noted Matthew Arnold, after visiting this country and examining our institutions gave as his opinion that America lacked historic background and local attachment. Dr Scofield declared this a mistaken opinion, that we had the same background as the English we fought at Agincourt, we took our first lessons in smashing Spanish names with the English. We still belong to the Anglo Saxon race with the faculty of homeing. Our sons and daughters are wont to come back to the hills and valleys of their infancy. Northfield was indebted to this strength of local attachment which brought back an honored son to erect a magnificent memorial to his ancestors in the form of a free public library. Our benefactor is one of Northfield's townsmen loaned to Fitchburg but claimed by Northfield in the homeing.

Mr. Dickinson then asked the president of the day to read his speech, at the close of which he presented to E. C. Field the chairman of the selectmen the deed and keys.

Mr. President and chairman of the selectmen:—I take great pleasure in presenting to the town of Northfield through you, its legal representative, the deed and keys of the library building which I have erected and which is herein described. I have a sincere affection for this town, as it is my birthplace and the home of my ancestors. Here in the early history of the town some of them labored to convert it from a wilderness to a civilized community, one of them suffering death by the hands of an Indian, and here succeeding generations have lived and died. As a memorial to the family name of Dickinson I make this gift, unconditional and unrestricted, save only that it shall always be used for the purpose for which it was designed and within its walls every inhabitant and sojourner shall be freely and cordially welcomed.

Mr. Field in receiving the keys and deed from Mr. Dickinson thanked the donor most heartily in behalf of the town for this magnificent gift, than which no finer building in any town of its size exists in the State. He wished Mr. Dickinson many years of health and strength to enjoy the fruits of his life's toil. In giving the keys to Dr. N. P. Wood, chairman of trustees, he charged them to be faithful to their trust. Dr. N. P. Wood, chairman of the library trustees, received the keys from E. C. Field and said:

Mr. Chairman:—In behalf of the library trustees I accept these keys and the custody of the building with a deep sense of the great responsibility thereby conveyed. Dr. Wood then spoke of the recognition of the free public library by this Commonwealth and the act of 1890 establishing a free public library commission, placing the library on an equal footing with the church and the school. He complimented the commissioners for their able work since the passage of that act. Surrounded by such excellent institutions of learning it was a happy inspiration which caused the donor of this beautiful and artistic building to make such a contribution to our means of culture. The speaker enlarged upon the wisdom of giving such gifts while living and while able to carry out the giver's intentions, rather than by will for probable lawsuit and distortion. He then gave a brief history of the present library from its beginning to the present time and thanked the donor in a most hearty manner for the gift in behalf of the town. He referred to the family name of Dickinson as one honorably associated with the educational history of the Commonwealth. The people of Northfield, their children and succeeding generations will ever honor the one who provides this building, this home of letters and learning.

Music followed by the Estey chorus. Dr. Scofield in a very happy manner then introduced the speaker of the day, whose address will be published in our next issue.

Music by Estey Chorus, at the close of which by request of D. L. Moody the young ladies turned to Mr. Dickinson and sang that beautiful hymn beginning "The Lord keep you and bless you." Dr. Samuel Swett Green was next introduced by Dr. Scofield with a very graceful compliment to the work of the Free Public Library Commission of which Mr. Green is a member.

Mr. Green spoke of his pleasure in representing the commission in Northfield and thanked the donor in behalf of this commission for his gift which meant so much to the town and the state. He also brought congratulations from the city of Worcester. He said the Indian name of this town was Squakeag, which meant place for spearing salmon. Worcester must be a kin of this town for their Indian name meant a place to catch pickerel. He referred to his visit to Oxford University, its libraries, and described most graphically the ancient method of chaining the books to the shelves for fear they would be carried away. He contrasted this custom with that of to-day when every possible means is taken to disseminate books among the reading public. He spoke of the advisability of allowing readers to select books for themselves from the shelves. He described methods employed in Worcester to distribute books through the public schools and to delivery stations. Northfield must make her library a bureau of information for its readers. Relics must be gathered, attics ransacked and every possible bit of information concerning this town must be gathered into this building for future generations; manuscripts, old sermons, the fauna and flora so that any one who wants to know about Northfield must come here to study about it.

He spoke of pictures, their educational value to young and old. He asked, What does this all mean? A library is not a store house of books. In a reservoir in which you collect water for distribution you see to it that it is pure. Your library is a reservoir of learning; see to it that it is pure, untainted. A library well managed exemplifies the truth. Fill the mind with a great interest and great enthusiasm.

After a song by Mrs. W. R. Moody, there was an address by W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst college. In the beginning he said that the late Dr. Woodruff said that he couldn't preach half as well unless he had something to preach against. In a late number of the North American Review was stated this: That a library should not furnish amusement and recreation. He wished to preach against this idea. The policy of the managers of the Boston Public Library was to make it as attractive as possible to people who had the least taste for reading. We should make a library our literary common. On Boston common were flowers and walks, water and everything to make it as attractive as possible for all classes. So in a library every element of society should find some books on its shelves which will appeal to his or her sense, whether for recreation, education or the uplifting of the soul. The children should find juvenile stories, the farmer if he wishes relaxation, something light and entertaining; the busy housewife, maybe a love story. All of this, if wholesome, will lead to high thought and noble purpose, will teach them to live happily, cheerfully, generously.

D. L. Moody was announced as the next speaker. He said: I am put up here to say what I don't know, but I want to announce that I am after the boys of ten in their New England homes. We want to raise money enough to keep this library open the entire time. Mr. Dickinson is a practical man; he has built a monument that can walk around; it will not crumble. He has started a fountain that will flow forever. I want to charge our superintendent of schools to look after the bad boys, place books in their hands and so reform the coming generation.

The last speaker of the day, Rev. G. Glenn Atkins of Greenfield, said: We are all fellow citizens of the community of letters. I rejoice in the existence of this beautiful building, given because of the loyalty of one of Northfield's sons. I rejoice in the love that has given it as so developing the life of our country. I reaffirm that your responsibility is great. This library will be what you make it through your trustees. You must give it financial support, give generously, regularly, and keep at it. The trustees are its servants; you give it a soul. Every book becomes a deposit of the author's soul of which every reader can come in contact with. Books are the soul of the library, the kind you put there will make the character of the library and of the citizens. See to it that the high and great of all ages are there. If these are there, redolent with spiritual essence, boys and girls will be lifted up. Mr. Dickinson gave the library: see to it that it has a beautiful soul.

After a few closing words by Dr. Scofield the exercises closed with the singing of America led by Mr. Robert Snow.

Many prominent people from different parts of the state attended these exercises, among them being: J. G. Edgerly, superintendent of schools of Fitchburg; J. F. De Garfield; Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Parker; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Dickinson, son of E. M. Dickinson, four grandchildren of Mr. Dickinson; Elwin A. Goodrich and wife, C. E. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. Woodard and daughter, Mr. Henry Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Holton, H. A. Goodrich, John A. Kellogg, editor of Fitchburg Sentinel, J. L. Wright and many others all of Fitchburg; Rev. Dr. Osgood of Cohasset; Mrs. Mansur, librarian of Winchendon; W. I. Fletcher, Amherst; Mr. C. S. Green of Worcester, and Mr. Nourse of Lancaster of the Free Library Com.; Rev. Mr. Osgood of Brattleboro; Rev. and Mrs. Atkins of Greenfield; Rev. Mr. Birks of Bernardston; Mr. and Mrs. Witherbee of Athol.

Gazette & Courier.

GREENFIELD, JUNE 18, 1898.

Address.

By Rev. Geo. F. Piper at the Dedication of the Dickinson Memorial Library, Northfield, June 9, 1898.

It was said by James Russell Lowell that the opening of a free public library is the most important event in the history of any town. I think we shall all agree on a moment's reflection that this is too sweeping a statement. The founding of Harvard College in the town in which Lowell passed most of his years was a more important event than the opening of the Cambridge City library more than two centuries later. The battle of Lexington was an event of greater significance in the history of that town than the establishment of the library from which all its inhabitants can take books without money and without price. The provision early made for public religious services and the support of a minister of the gospel in all our New England towns was an event fraught with deeper meaning than the formation of free public libraries in most of these towns long afterwards. Still, it is hardly worth while to look at Lowell's statement from a critical point of view. With a slight modification it expresses the exact truth. When we say that the opening of a free public library is *one* of the most important events in the history of any town we utter a truth which no sane mind would think of denying, yet one which is richly worth our careful thought.

We have not come together to-day to open a free public library in Northfield for the first time. Such an institution has existed here since 1878, and was preceded by a social library, quite respectable in the number and character of its volumes and the extent of its influence, which was established in 1813. We are here to dedicate a building elegant in architecture, ample in size, convenient in arrangement, and destined, we may reasonably believe, to stand for ages, which from this time is to be the home of our free public library, the center from which its books shall go out to cheer, enlighten, elevate and bless, a place where old and young shall gather to read and study, a place, too, which shall be the receptacle of pictures and relics, and a great variety of interesting and instructive works of nature and of art.

Assembled to dedicate such a building we naturally ask what advantages are afforded by the volumes already housed within its walls, and to what heights of usefulness and attractiveness are the citizens of Northfield and others interested in the welfare of the town invited to raise its well appointed rooms?

I shall attempt an answer to this question;—promising that while I present the ideal I will not rise above the attainable, and that while I dwell on the possible I will not overlook the actual. What does a library selected as ours has been with about average judgment and care mean to those who have access to it? It means that they can have the companionship of many of the wisest, the most original, the most cultivated, and the most helpful minds which the world has known. It means that they can become conversant with the opinions of those who have given important subjects long and deep thought and who have acquired the art of expressing their thoughts with elegance and accuracy. It means that they can sit down and learn of the great statesmen, the great poets, the great historians, the great scientists, the great philosophers, the great moralists, the great religious thinkers and writers of past ages and of the present. It means that the boy can take Dickens home with him, and laugh and cry as he depicts to him the drolleries and sorrows of human life. It means that the young woman can have an introduction to Tennyson and become familiar with his refined and uplifting thoughts. It means that the man of affairs can have for a month the companionship of James Bryce and learn what that candid and observing Englishman thinks of our American Commonwealth. It means that the busy housewife can have the friendship of Harriet Beecher Stowe and that she will be glad to relate to her the story of Uncle Tom's Cabin, of Oldtown Folks, of the Pearl of Orr's Island, and of Pink and White Tyranny. It means that all of us can invite Henry Drummond to our hospitality and be reminded by him that love is the greatest thing in the world. Time would fail me to enumerate the men and women eminent in authorship with whom a library of moderate size and average quality can make us acquainted, and by means of such acquaintance render us wiser, happier and better. In the library which is open to all the inhabitants of this town can be found Shakespere prepared to put Hamlet upon the boards for our edification, Bacon willing to stimulate our minds by his essays, Mark Twain glad to amuse us by the hour with accounts of his Innocents Abroad, Edward Everett Hale longing to tell us of the griefs of the man without a country, Oliver Wendell Holmes eager to sit and chat to us in his delectable way as the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table, John Fiske ready to inform us of the Beginnings of New England, of the Events of the American Revolution, of the Critical Period of American History, of Civil Government in the United States, of Myths and Myth Makers and of the Excursions of an Evolutionist, and a host of others whose companionship would be sure to enlarge, elevate and cheer us.

But I do not say enough of the advantages of a free public library when I speak in a general way of the companionship which it brings to those who read its books. I must speak of these advantages in a somewhat more specific manner in order to do anything like justice to them.

A collection of books like that already in the building which we dedicate to-day affords a great deal of innocent diversion. It contains no small amount of light, pleasing literature adapted to drive away our cares and enliven our spirits. There are times when we are weary, lonely or despondent, or when for some other reason there is nothing better for us to do than to go with Samantha to the Centennial, or visit Thirty-one states in thirty days, or ride Round the World in a Hack, or take a Voyage of Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea. There are times when Charles Lamb's Dissertation on Roast Pig is better for us than any work of ethics or politics, and Cozzen's Sparrowgrass Papers than any work of history or philosophy. Unquestionably novels of no very high order occupy far too much of the reading time of thousands of people, and in many instances work incalculable mischief to mind and heart; unquestionably the majority of readers need to feel that time is too sacred and life given for too noble a purpose to be spent to so great an extent as it is in reading what is poor, weak and unreal, and yet we all have hours when it does us good to amuse ourselves with a laughable story or an absurd adventure.

> "A little nonsense now and then
> Is relished by the best of men."

And not only is it relished by them, but it acts as a medicine, helping to restore the languid powers that they may do their full part in the more serious business of life. Nor should it be forgotten that in many cases books whose chief purpose is to divert serve, also, to instruct and elevate, and that while it is a lamentable fact that works of fiction form seventy per cent. of all that are taken from our public libraries, it is a fact, by no means so lamentable, as barely looking at the face of it might lead us to suppose. While reading for recreation is carried to a pernicious extent, it is a kind of reading that is good in its place, and with all the dissipation and waste caused by over-indulgence in it is far from being an unmixed evil.

A public library even if it be of only moderate size is an unspeakable blessing as a means of instruction. It is sure to contain standard histories from which can be gained a knowledge of the early civilizations of the world,—those of Egypt, Chaldea, Babylonia, Media, Persia, Palestine, Greece and Rome; histories of the middle ages, and histories of Spain, France, Germany, Holland, England, and America in later times. It is sure to contain histories of the world's great wars, of philosophy, of science, of English literature, of morals and of religion. It is sure to contain lives of the world's great men, Milton, Cromwell, Napoleon Bonaparte, Washington, Franklin, and Emerson. It is sure to contain the essays of Macauley and the speeches of Webster. On its shelves will be found many volumes of natural science, popular treatises on astronomy, geology, chemistry, and botany. Books devoted to voyages and travels will also be found there adapted to broaden the reader's ideas of the world. At least a hundred poets of England and America will be represented there. Helps to the study of the Bible, and presentations of the doctrines of the different religious sects will have a place, and books which treat of sociology, of philanthropy, of reforms, of the fine arts and of the mechanic arts, of agriculture and of household economy will hardly be looked for in vain. One is surprised to find on a little thought how many branches of knowledge are usually pretty well represented in a public library of not more than four thousand volumes, and what an opportunity it offers to all who are eager to learn, and even to those who have no special thirst for knowledge, such a collection of books is a help. They wish to know more of the history of Spain, of Cuba, of the Philippine Islands, of Hawaii, of the various attempts to reach the North pole, of Henry George and his theory of taxation, of Edward Bellamy and the method by which he would remedy the ills of society, of socialism, or of the labor movement, and they go to the public library for a book on the subject. Here is an institution which stimulates inquiry, and every year becomes more important as a source of information. It diffuses that knowledge which makes life mean more to the individual and to the world.

Every public library is to some extent an educator. While it affords instruction to many and diversion to many more there are those whom it helps to draw out—to develop. They are led by means of it to study some work of natural science, moral philosophy or international law. It puts books in their way that make them think, and that awaken in them an interest in great problems. They take home with them Prof. Harris' Moral Evolution, or Prof. Ely's Social Aspects of Christianity, or Gladden's Ruling Ideas of the Present Age, or Gen. Booth's In Darkest England, or Dole's Coming People. They read Dr. Strong's remarkable book, Our Country; its possible future and present crisis, or the discussions of the evangelical alliance a few years ago of our national perils and opportunities. They become interested in the Federalist, in Johnstone's American Politics, and in the account of the World's Parliament of Religions, or in that elaborate work on the evils of intemperance, The Foundation of Death. All our public libraries contain books that discuss great questions and kindle thought;—books that will not let the reader skim over their pages, and there are readers who are sure to get hold of such books, and to have their minds exercised by them. We sometimes think that volumes of this kind in the library of a country town only get covered with dust and yellow with age, but there are at least a few persons who are made more earnest and thoughtful by them, and better fitted to serve their country and their race. Every public library also tends to refine the thoughts and feelings of those who are accustomed to resort to it. It contains works which cultivate the taste and foster a love of the beautiful. It leads some to read Longfellow, Whittier, Browning, and Ruskin, who otherwise would remain in ignorance of them. It tempts some to become acquainted with the poetic gems in Emerson's Parnassus, to peruse Bryant's library of poetry and song, to study the old Hebrew writers, from the literary point of view, of Prof. Moulton and Prof. Genung, or to make themselves familiar with works on music, architecture, painting, or sculpture; a large majority of authors exert a refining influence. Every department of a library,—its works of history, biography, science and fiction, its juvenile books and its periodicals serve this purpose almost without exception. The very atmosphere of a library and reading room is refining, and such a building as we dedicate to-day is a perpetual protest against vulgarity and rowdyism, and in some measure a prevention of them.

There is another important end which every public library serves. It promotes moral and spiritual life. It is an ally of the church, and of every institution that aims to reform, quicken and uplift mankind. I know there are many books whose influence is far from religious or salutary in any respect, and that our libraries are not entirely free from them, but they contain a much larger number which inculcate the principles of the Christian religion and present that religion as a practical, vital, life-giving power. It is not simply what are termed religious books, of which every well selected library will contain a good number,—which tend to improve the character, and render man a holier and more helpful being. A multitude which most persons would hardly think of classing as religious teach some of the best religious lessons. Not only sermons, commentaries, and lives of the saints exert a religious influence, but many a story, many a poem, and many a biography written with no religious intent. Every book which teaches purity, temperance, self-denial, self-sacrifice, humility, benevolence, justice, mercy, veracity, reverence, or any Christian virtue or grace; every book which in any way seeks to diminish the amount of human misery and sin, and make men happier and better is to be recognized as a friend of truth and righteousness and a servant of the living God.

In the commodious and substantial building which the generosity of Mr. Dickinson has erected there will henceforth be a library which will serve all the purposes which I have named. How well it will serve them will depend partly on the wisdom of the trustees in the purchase of books, and partly on the liberality of the town in appropriating money for this purpose, but most of all on the desire of the citizens of the town to avail themselves of the provision which is made for them. An inviting and helpful collection of books is there offered, a well-supplied reading-room will soon be opened, and both library and reading-room will gradually offer greater attractions, but the usefulness of both must depend to no small extent on the conviction that the purposes which they are designed to serve are worth seeking. I venture to say that down to the present time the Northfield public library has not done for the people of the town a tenth part as much as it would have done had they used it as wisely and faithfully as they might. Is not this a good time to stop and think of the benefit which this institution can be to us, and to resolve to make the most of it?

If the building which we dedicate to-day were designed only for a library and reading-room it would be a magnificent gift, and a source of pleasure, instruction and moral edification to the generation now living, and to generations yet unborn. But it is designed for more than a library and reading-room. It contains a beautiful and spacious hall and three smaller rooms intended for a museum. The inhabitants of the town and persons generously disposed toward us wherever they may live are invited by that empty hall and the rooms adjoining it to show their generosity and public spirit and make for themselves a name by appropriate gifts. Abundant opportunity is offered for a varied, interesting and instructive display. On the walls of those rooms may be hung some hundreds of pictures—portraits of eminent men who were born or have lived in the town, views of its

streets and public buildings in bygone days, and of its streets, public buildings and charming natural scenery at the present time. On the walls of those rooms, too, may be hung engravings and photographs of illustrious men, of noted architectural piles, and of various specimens of art of every country and every age. Views of natural scenery in every part of the world may also be exhibited there. Pictures of real merit can now be bought so cheap that we can have no excuse for leaving those walls unadorned by them.

It is peculiarly appropriate that the rooms in our new building should contain Indian relics. Here the red man had his home and carried on a long and bloody conflict with the white man. The building which we dedicate to-day stands but a few feet from the site of a fort erected as a defence against the Indians in the time of the old French and Indian war; but a few feet, too, from the spot where lived the great grandfather of the donor of our new library, Nathaniel Dickinson, who was killed and scalped by Indians on the 15th of April, 1747, and in memory of whom stands a monument at the place where he fell. Only a few feet from where we are assembled Aaron Belding was killed by an Indian on the 23d of July, 1748, and an inscription to this effect is cut in the rock on which the deed was done. In coming from the library to this church we passed a lot on which a fort was built in 1686 and on which six persons were murdered by Indians in 1688. Three attempts were made to settle Squakeag, as this region was then called, before a permanent settlement could be effected. This town is one of great historic interest. For nearly a hundred years it was the scene of struggles, sufferings, and fears, which it would be impossible to describe. The library which Mr. Dickinson has built stands on historic ground. Shall not a persistent effort be made to collect within its walls as many relics as possible of the race which has passed away?

In this building should be collected also many antiquated utensils and articles of furniture and dress to remind us of former times, and of the contrast between those times and the present. Books, letters, deeds, coins, jewelry, fire-arms and military accoutrements of the 17th and 18th centuries should be gathered there to the fullest extent. The people of Northfield should feel that nought that they have of this kind is their own, but should bring it to the museum in the Dickinson Memorial library for all to enjoy.

This museum should abound in specimens of nature as well as of art. The mineralogy, botany and zoology of this region should be fully represented. We should give ourselves no rest until we have there a specimen of every mineral and every plant to be found within the limits of the town, and of every beast, bird, fish, reptile and insect which has its habitation among us. A rare opportunity is afforded us to make a beginning in this direction by acquiring, for a nominal sum, a collection of more than sixteen hundred minerals, and I trust that we shall not fail to avail ourselves of it.

While we offer our thanks to the donor of this building, so rich in promise and so very rich in possibilities, we know that there is a higher reward than any thanks which we can render. It is the reward which comes from the consciousness of having done a noble, useful and good thing,—a deed which will be a blessing to his native town through many generations, and while we remember that our thanks, however earnest and sincere, are not *his best reward*, let us also remember that they are not the performance of *our whole duty*. Our acceptance of this gift puts upon us the obligation to make the most of it that we can. To whom much is given of him much is required. Having accepted this building, so beautiful, so substantial, and so well adapted to our wants, it is now incumbent on us to make large appropriations to increase the number of its books, and to keep it open a sufficient part of the time, to encourage all, but especially the young, to use it faithfully, and by our generous individual gifts to render its museum a source of pleasure and a means of education to all who shall visit it.

DEDICATORY EXERCISES

OF THE

DICKINSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY,

NORTHFIELD, MASS.

THURSDAY, JUNE NINTH,

1898.

PROGRAMME.

Invocation, ... REV. G. GLENN ATKINS.

Music.

Introductory Remarks by the President of the Day, . .
. . . . . REV. C. I. SCOFIELD, D. D.

Presentation of Deed and Keys of the Building by MR. DICKINSON
to Chairman of the Selectmen, MR. E. C. FIELD.

Presentation of Keys and custody of Building by MR. E. C. FIELD
to the Chairman of the Trustees, DR. N. P. WOOD.

Music.

Dedicatory Address, . . . REV. GEORGE F. PIPER.

Music.

Address, ... SAMUEL SWETT GREEN,
of the Free Public Library Commission.

Address, ... W. I. FLETCHER,
Librarian Amherst College.

Music.

Address, ... D. L. MOODY.

Address, ... REV. G. GLENN ATKINS.

Music.

Benediction.

Reception Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Green,

Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Caldwell.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Fitt.

Rev. and Mrs. C. I. Scofield.

Dr. and Mrs. N. P. Wood.

After June 11, the Library and Reading Room will be open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 2 to 5:30 o'clock and from 6:30 to 9 o'clock P. M.

"50 years ago"

The contract for putting in the foundations of the E. M. Dickinson public library has been given to Herbert Chamberlain and work has already begun, with the prospect of its being completed before winter.

Recorder Gazette
Nov 19, 1946

You are invited to be present at the dedication
of the
Dickinson Memorial Library,
Northfield, Massachusetts,
June the ninth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight.

The Library Building
will be open for inspection at
ten o'clock, a. m.
Dedicatory Exercises
will be held in the Congregational Church
at two o'clock p. m.

N. P. Wood,
Geo. F. Piper,
Henry W. Rankin,
Chas. H. Green,
Henry W. Montague,
Mrs. R. K. Caldwell,
Trustees of Library.

R. S. V. P.

AN APPEAL.

The Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library take this method of again soliciting from the citizens of Northfield and others interested in the town, the gift or loan of articles suitable to be placed in the beautiful and commodious building recently dedicated. While many articles have been promised and will soon be put on exhibition, we are confident that there are many others which deserve to be added to this interesting collection. Implements, utensils, furniture, arms, accoutrements, coins, and ornaments of the olden time, may be mentioned to give an idea of what is wanted. An old map of Franklin county is expressly desired. Books, pamphlets, sermons, and other documents, printed or manuscript, having a local interest, are earnestly solicited; also portraits, drawings, plans, programs, curious advertisements, printed obituaries, relics of the civil war, files of town reports and of the county newspapers.

As an illustration of what we are doing and desire co-operation that we may carry on indefinitely, it may be mentioned that there will soon be placed in the building more than four hundred botanical specimens found within the limits of Northfield, a scrap-book containing all the Northfield items published in the Greenfield "Gazette and Courier" for many years, and a rare collection of Indian deeds and other papers bearing on the early history of the town; a large and valuable collection of minerals will also be placed there as soon as the nominal sum asked for it can be raised.

We appeal to every resident of Northfield and every son and daughter of the town wherever living to aid us in our efforts to establish an attractive and instructive museum in the hall and adjoining rooms which Mr. Dickinson has generously provided for the purpose in the building which he has erected.

Every article accepted will be properly labeled and acknowledgment of it made.

N. P. WOOD,
GEO. F. PIPER,
H. W. RANKIN,
C. H. GREEN,
H. W. MONTAGUE,
MRS. R. K. CALDWELL,
Trustees.

Northfield, Mass., August 8, 1898.

July 30, 1898

The following rules have recently been adopted by the library trustees:

1. Each family may have in its possession not more than five books at one time, and only one of these may belong to the purchase of the current year.
2. All books taken from the library by minors shall be registered in the names of their parents, guardians or employers.
3. Books may be kept out of the library for two weeks and once renewed. A fine of one cent per day must be paid for every book retained beyond the time allowed.
4. Persons charged with books will be held responsible until their return is noted in the journal by the librarian; and they must deliver them to the librarian for inspection. All damages done and fines incurred must be adjusted before taking other books.
5. The librarian shall keep an account of money received from fines, losses, damages, and for use of books, and report to the library trustees. The money thus obtained shall be used for the benefit of the library.
6. Books must not be taken from the shelves except by permission of the librarian.
7. Loud talking and general conversation in the library will be prohibited and proper decorum required of all patrons and visitors.
8. Strangers visiting in Northfield may take books from the library by depositing two dollars with the librarian, who shall give a receipt for all such deposit.
9. Families resident in immediately adjoining towns may enjoy all the privileges of the library on payment in advance of one dollar a year.

Aug. 13, 1898

Northfield.

The following books have recently been added by purchase to the Dickinson Memorial library:

Jerome, a poor man, Mary E. Wilkins; Penelope's progress, Kate Douglass Wiggin; Young Puritans of old Hadley, Mary P. Wells Smith; Soldiers of fortune, R. H. Davis; Hero in homespun, W. E. Barton; True to his home, Hezekiah Butterworth; St. Ives, R. L. Stevenson; Pilgrim fathars of New England, John Brown; Marching with Gomez, Grover Flint; Cap'n Thistletop, Sophie Sweet; Story tellers' rack, F. R. Stockton; The third violet, Stephen Crane; Stories and sketches for the young, H. B. Stowe; Equality, Edward Bellamy; Spaniard in history, J. C. Fernald; Captains courageous, Rudyard Kipling; Warrior gap, Charles King; Sentimental Tommy, Y. M. Barrie; Caleb West, F. H. Smith; Life of Frances E. Willard, Anna H. Gordon; Adventures of Sir Toady Seiver, S. B. Crockett; Aaron in the wildwoods, J. C. Harris; Miss Archer Archer, C. L. Burnham; Hugh Wynne, S. Wier Mitchell; Story of Gladstone's life, Justin McCarthy; Forest lovers, Maurice Howlett; Glimpses of unfamiliar Japan, L. Hearn; Awakening of a nation, C. F. Lummis; Landlord at Lion's Head and an open-eyed conspiracy, W. D. Howells; Children at Shelburne House, A. M. Douglass; The coming people, C. F. Dole; Hildegard's home and Hildegard's harvest, Laura E. Richards; Dr. Lutrell's first patient, R. N. Carey; Phronsie Pepper, Margaret Sidney; Making fate and overruled, Mrs. G. R. Alden; Sue Orcutt and Orcutt girls, C. M. Vaile; Familiar quotations, John Bartlett; On the face of the water and in the tideway, Flora A. Steele; Cheerful yesterdays, T. W. Higginson; The ideal life, Henry Drummond; Sesame and Lilies, John Ruskin.

July 25, 1898. 2. P.M.
A mtg of Trustees, Present only the Chairman, Dr Wood, Mr Piper & the Secretary. With them met the librarian Mrs Stockbridge. The only business transactes was a revision of the library Rules. It was directed that a copy of the revised rules be published in the Greenfield Gazette (as herewith given) Adjourned to meet in one week.

H. W. R. Secy.

August 1st 2 P.M.
All present. Mr J. Ed. Warren, town Superintendent of schools, meets with the Board. A discussion ensues regarding means of promoting the use of the library among the public school children

of Northfield. Mr Warren is requested to talk with his teachers about this, & to submit to the Board such a plan, & such book lists, as he may then approve.

Voted: That all bills incurred by the removal of the books from the Town Hall to the new building be met out of the appropriation for furnishing; that Mr Piper prepare a circular appeal, to be signed by all the trustees, of which 600 copies shall be printed, calling for gifts of relics, documents & other objects of interest worthy of preservation in the Library Building; and that this circular shall be sent to all the families residing in Northfield, and to others likely to be interested in this effort. Also that Mr Piper be authorized & requested to purchase suitable racks & binders for the periodicals used in the Reading-Room, and a die to stamp

library stamp. Adjourned Sine die

Lecy R.

Nov 15. 1898. 2 P.M.

All present except H. W. Montague.

Mr Piper presents a bill of items of expenses met for the library, wh is approved. Voted: that library be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, July 4th and the afternoon of Memorial Day; that the deeds of library property exhibited by Mr Green be hung in the Reading Room (framed); that Mr Piper be authorized to secure furniture at his discretion to the Amount of $100. for the collections on hand; that the money be refunded to Miss Clark (teacher) which she spent on fines for books loaned to the Piper School district. that books taken by the teachers for the school district be charged to the teachers, and returned within four weeks.

R. Lecy

(The work of Cataloging the library was completed by Mr Maynard & he was paid $6:
This work was inspected by the Book Committee before the acct was settled, and appeared to them satisfactory.
Mr Maynard had been highly recommended to us by Rev Geo A. Jackson of the Theological Library, Boston ~~53~~ at 53 Vernon Street. Much of his training was recd from Librarian Fletcher of Amherst.)

February 16, 1899.
All present but Mr Green.
Voted: That books in circulation which are spoken for while out of the library may be charged to the applicant from the date of ~~this~~ application for the usual two weeks (and thus secure to applicant the first opportunity of having)

Voted: That the Chairman be authorized to buy the Century Set of 100 portrait Engravings; That Chmn confer with the local photographers about getting a Set of 20 views of Northfield for the Library.
The Chairman reads his report to be presented at the next Town meeting. Report ~~accepted~~ approved. Reports of the Book Committee & Treasurer for the year past also read and approved.
Adj'd. S.D.

Sec.

May 13, 1899.
All present but Mr Green. All of last years appointments in the Board are re~~elected~~ newed, Officers and Committees. for the ensuing year.
Voted: That Dictionaries, Encyclopaedias and Atlases be not removed from the building; That Chairman & Secretary be empowered to arrange for hanging the pictures bot of the Century Co.; That the Janitors

Wages be increased by fifty dollars for the year beginning with June, a total of $125.00; that an arrangement of tables for relics be made by the executive committee.

Adj'd — Dec.

Mr Horatio J. Allen, of Cleveland, Ohio, 1088 East Madison Ave, having presented the library with some old local documents, & colored views of the Deerfield valley the Secretary was requested to write to him with the thanks of the Board, which was afterward done.

February 7, 1900.

Adj'd mtg at the house of Dr Wood. at 2.30 P.M. All present but Mr montague. Chairman read a letter from Mrs Alexander regarding the framed photographs of the memorial stones erected to commemorate Victori-

Cal events in Northfield, which ~~Mrs~~ photographs she has presented to the Library. Voted that the Secretary send to Mrs Alexander a letter of acknowledgement; the letter to receive the approval of Chairman of the board. Voted that the $5.00 subscription to the Art Club be renewed for the ensuing year. Voted that a set of photographic views of Northfield, such as were shown at the meeting, be secured for the Art Club. Book Committee to meet next Friday at Mr Sipe's at 2 P.M.

Adjourned,

Secretary.

May 26. 1900.

Board met at the Library at 2.30 P.M. Absent Mrs Green & Rifle.

Voted: that old Appointments & Board Membership be all renewed for the ensuing year; that janitors wages be increased by $25. to $150.00 — from

next month on. That new books should not be renewed to the same person until they have been six months in the library; that Mr Rankin be requested to examine all books on the shelves containing imprints of book-plates, or having any special value as rarities, and to determine which of these may be sold or retained as more profitable to the library. A little first American edition of Burns' Poems was shown by Chase as belonging to the library, of a high market value; also certain imprints.

Voted That Chairman be authorized to have the call for relics printed on large card, and framed & hung in the library building in several places, to be always in sight to visitors to the Library.

Mtg adjourned — R.
Sec'y.

February 2, 1901.
Board met at the house of Dr Ward at 2.30 P.M.
all present but Mr. Hankin
Mr. Piper was chosen Secretary pro tem.
The records of the last meeting were read & approved
Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander having presented the library with a beautifully framed photograph of Redemption Rock in Princeton, Mass. the chairman was instructed to communicate to her the thanks of the board.
The chairman having received from Mr. E. M. Dickinson a letter saying that he contemplated selling his land in the rear of the library, & on condition that a certain sum be raised by citizens of Northfield, guaranteeing the proceeds to the town as a fund, the interest to be used in

keeping the building in repair, the chairman was requested to send to Mr Dickinson an appreciative reply. After an informal consideration of several other matters relating to the library the board adjourned.

Geo. F. Piper,
Secy pro tem.

April 11th 1901.

Board met at the library at 2 o'clock in the afternoon with following members present: Hon. Wood, Pifer, Green, Montague Mrs. Caldwell and ~~the~~ Mr. Smith.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Board was reorganized as follows.

Chairman - Dr. H. P. Wood.
Secretary H. Fay Smith.
Treasurer. C. H. Green.

Executive Committee

Dr. H. P. Wood.
C. H. Green.
H. W. Montague.

Book Committee.

Rev. Geo. F. Pifer.
Mrs. H. W. Caldwell.
Rev. H. Fay Smith.

Voted. That the Executive Committee be authorized and instructed to expend at their discretion for a suitable table and case for the further accommodation of curiosities, relics &c

over.

Noted. That the Secretary be instructed to write Mr. C. H. Dickinson a suitable letter of thanks for the collection of coins, the petition to the king, and other relics just received from him.

Noted That the following be added to the by-laws of the library: Upon request, the librarian will reserve books for patrons in the order in which the requests may be made, and postal card notification will be sent when the books is ready. A fee of two cents will be charged for each such reservation.

Noted That before Oct. 1st next the Board consider whether or not some change should be made as to the number of days in the week upon which the library shall be opened.

Noted That the Book Committee be instructed to expend not to exceed ten dollars ($10.00) for use in binding magazines

Noted To adjourn.

H. Fay Smith,
Secy.

May 29th 1901.

A meeting of the Board was held at the library building at 2.30 P.M. with the following members present: Messrs Wood, Green, Piper, Smith & Mrs. Caldwell. The minutes of the last meeting were read and affroved.

Noted. That the chairman of the Board be authorized to make all necessary arrangements for the meeting of the Western Mass. Library Assn. to be held at this place on June 6th 1901.

Noted. That the thanks of the Board be extended to Mrs. W. W. Sias, W. Northfield, and to Mrs. D. L. Hendy, E. Northfield for the books they have recently presented to the Library and that the secretary be instructed to write these ladies to this effect.

Noted. That the librarian be instructed to notify the Secretary of the Board of any books donated to the library and that it be his duty to write a note of acknowledgment to the donors.

Voted. To adjourn.

H. Fay Smith. Sec.

Experiment of Sex.

Apl.	11th	Patang.	.027
May	25th	" "	.054
July	4th	"	.057
"	17th	" "	.02
Aug.	8th	"	.02
Sept	10th	"	.02
"	12th	"	.02
"	20th	"	.02
May	2	"	.04

July 4th 1901.

Letter of acknowledgement written to
Mrs. W.W. Sias, W. Hatfield, Mass.
" D.L. Hendy E. Hatfield, "
" John H. Madgan. " "
" H. F. S.

July 17th 1901.

Letter to Mrs. W.W. Sias. W. Hatfield, Mass.
" " " D.L. Hendy East " "
acknowledging picture of Mr. Hendy. Aug. 8th 1901.
Letter to Mrs. W.W. Sias, W. Hatfield. Aug. 10th 1901
" " H. W. Rankin E. " " 12th 1901
" " Mrs. W.W. Sias W. " " 20th 1901

Oct. 20th 1902

A special meeting of the Trustees was held in Dr. Woods office at 2 P.M. with following members present: Messrs Wood, Green, Montague, Smith and Mrs. Caldwell.

At this meeting the following resolution was adopted:-

Whereas:
It has pleased an allwise Providence to remove from the activities of this life our friend and benefactor, Elijah M.Dickinson,

Resolved:
That we remember with gratitude his generous and constant interest in the welfare of Northfield, his birthplace.

We recognize his contributions to the cause of local history, through his marking in an appropriate and enduring manner the places where Nathaniel Dickinson, Ashael Burt, and Aaron Belding were killed by the Indians; and his interest in the religious and social welfare of the town through his erecting a hall in West Northfield for such purposes.

But most of all do we hold him in grateful remembrance for his bounty in erecting and giving to this town our commodious and beautiful library building, a store-house of culture and of progress, a treasure-house of literature and of learning.

Resolved:
That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the records of the library trustees, be printed in the Gazette & Courier and in The Fitchburg ~~paper~~ Sentinel, and be sent to the family of the deceased.

N.P.Wood
C.H.Green
G.F.Piper
N.Fay Smith
H.W.Montague
Martha A.Caldwell

Trustees Dickinson Memorial Library.

Death of Northfield's Benefactor.

Elijah M. Dickinson, one of Northfield's most illustrious sons, passed away at his home in Fitchburg on Friday after several months of feebleness. His ancestors were identfied with the early history of the town, his great grandfather, Nathaniel Dickinson, moving here in 1727. He was killed by the Indians in 1747. His descendents figured prominently in the Revolutionary and Indian wars and in local affairs. Elijah M., was the son of Job M., and Rhoda Holton Dickinson, and was born August 1, 1816, in the home in the west part of the town. Early in life he went to Marlboro, thence to Fitchburg in 1845, where he spent the remainder of his life. He married June 1, 1843, Maria A. Belding of Northfield, who died, having borne him four children. He later married in Fitchburg, and Mrs. Dickinson and one son, Charles P., survive him. He was a successful manufacturer of boots and shoes, amassing a large fortune. He retained his love for his native town, owned the old home in West Northfield, and spent some time each year there. His sister Electa kept the house until her death, which occurred in 1895. Several years ago Mr. Dickinson gave to the town money to build the hall over the schoolroom in West Northfield as a place for religious meetings and social functions. In 1897 he erected the beautiful library building on Main street at an expense of over $20,000 as a memorial to his ancestors. Since its completion he had been a frequent visitor in its rooms. He rarely came empty handed, having placed many valuable relics in the relic rooms, and hung on the walls valuable portraits and pictures. He renewed old acquaintances and made new ones, and something of the brightness and good cheer of Northfield's summers will be gone with his genial presence. He will live long in the memory of the present inhabitants, and this and all generations to come will owe him a debt of gratitude for his generous gift. In this memorial to his ancestors he has builded himself a lasting monument in the home of his birth. His funeral was held from his late home on Monday. C. H. Green and Dr. N. P. Wood, trustees of the library, attended the funeral.

To the Trustees of the Northfield Library

Please accept the sincere thanks of the family and myself, for the sympathy which found expression in the beautiful wreath sent for Mr

H. Fay Smith.

Sec.

May 8th. 1903.

Board met at the Library at 2 o'clock P. M. with Messrs. Wood, Piper, Smith & Caldwell present.

Noted That organization of last year be continued for current year as follows:

Chairman: Dr. W. P. Wood
Secretary: W. Hay Smith
Treasurer: G. H. Green.

Executive Committee:

Dr. W. P. Wood
G. H. Green
H. W. Montague.

Book Committee:

Rev. Dr. J. Piper,
Mr. H. W. Caldwell.
Rev. W. Hay Smith

Noted That the case of Reference Books and others be moved into the alcove in reading room and that necessary change in position of pictures be made.

Noted That the Executive Committee be authorized to spend a sum not exceeding $100.00 for alteration in heating arrangements if in their judgment to seem wise.

The meeting was then duly adjourned.

W. Hay Smith.
Sec.

March 22nd " 1904

Board met at the library at 2.30 pm, with Messrs. Wood, Green, Montague, Wilson and Smith present. - Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Noted That the board be organized as follows:-

Chairman: Dr. H. B. Wood.
Secretary: H. Fay Smith.
Treasurer: C. H. Green.

Executive Committee:-

Dr. H. B. Wood.
C. H. Green.
H. W. Montague.

Book Committee:-

H. Fay Smith.
Mrs. H. A. Caldwell.
Rev. Daniel H. Wilson.
Dr. H. B. Wood.

It was reported by the executive committee that nothing had as yet been done by way of repairing the furnace in accordance with the vote of last year. It was therefore

Noted That the executive committee be empowered to examine the basement and make such repairs to building and heating apparatus

as in their judgement seem wise.
There was some discussion relative to binding some of the magazines & it was

Noted That the matter be left to the discretion of the book committee.

The meeting then adjourned.

H. Fay Smith,
Sec.

April 15th 1905.

To meet at the Library at 2 30 P M. with the Board, & Messrs Wood, Green, Smith & H. Fay Smith present.

Noted That the board be organized as follows.

Chairman Dr. H. B. Wood.
Secretary H. Fay Smith
Treasurer B. H. Green.

Executive Committee

Messrs Wood, Green and Hodges.

Book Committee

Messrs Wilson, Smith & Mrs. Freshman,

Noted. So adjourn.

H Fay Smith,
Sec.

Dec. 27th 1905.

The Board of Trustees met at Dr. Woods office at 2 o'clock P.M. The following members were present: Messrs Wood, Hodges, Hall, Watson, Smith and Woods.

The secretary read the following letter:

Nashville, Tenn. Nov. 1st 1906.

To the Trustees of the Nashville Training School

Dr. H. H. Woods, Sec.

Dear Sir: We hereby resign our positions as trustees of the Training School, to take effect at the close of the present session; namely the first Saturday in June 1906.

W. H. Hodges.
F. J. Tarkington.

Noted That we accept resignation of W. H. Hodges and F. J. Tarkington.

Noted That a committee be appointed by the chair to prepare suitable resolutions expressing the sorrow of the Board over the death of Mrs. Wilson, a former member of this Board, and that said committee report at this meeting. Mrs. Wilson's death occurred on the night of the 26th inst.

[illegible]

Voted That [illegible] to U. Grand is [illegible]
[illegible]
in [illegible], 1907.

Voted That [illegible] to U Grand [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] were [illegible] to see [illegible]
Grand [illegible] with [illegible] in
[illegible] of her duties and [illegible].

Voted [illegible]

[illegible]

At a meeting of the Trustees of the Lisk [illegible]
[illegible] Dec. 27th 1908. [illegible]
Wilson & Smith were instructed to draw up
suitable resolutions, [illegible] the Women of
the Church to [illegible] M. F. J. Church of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible];
and [illegible] in the name of the Board.
[illegible] in a [illegible] the resolutions are
[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible].

April 26th 1906

The Board of Trustees met at the Library at 2 P.M. with the entire Board present ~~except Mr. Wilcox~~.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Noted That the organization of 1905 (recorded on page 38 of this book) be continued for the ensuing year.

The Executive Committee reported that their work was not yet completed in re-arranging the heating facilities of the Library and it was

Noted That the matter be continued in their hands.

Noted That Mr. Wilcox be appointed to interview Mr. C. H. Worster and see what arrangements might be possible for securing the gifting of his valuable mineral cabinet in the to relic room of the Library.

Noted At the meeting be dissolved.

W. Harry Smith.
Sec.

April 29th 1907

The Board of Trustees met at the Library at 2.P.M. with [illegible] present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Voted. That at the organization of [1908] recorded on page 38 of this book be continued for the ensuring year.

Mr. Wilson reported that Mr. G. H. Webster is ready to donate to the library his valuable collection of minerals and it was

Voted That Mr. Webster's offer be accepted and that the Library be at the expense of transfer and cabinet to contain the collection.

Voted That the Book committee be empowered to sell such books as may have special value on account of age or otherwise and put the money into new books.

Voted That the meeting be dissolved

W. Fay Smith
Sec.

June 1st 1902.

A special meeting of the Trustees was called to order by the President of the Board at 2. P. M. at the Library with every member present.

Noted. That the High School be given the use of the two south rooms in the basement of the Library for laboratory purposes for one year; with the understanding that it will be at no expense from the Library appropriation.

Noted That the Schools be allowed the use of the upper hall for calisthenic exercises and social purposes for one year.

Noted That the meeting be dissolved.

H. Gay Smith
Sec.

Oct. 11th 1907

A special meeting of the Board was called to order at 2.30 P. M. by the President with Messrs Wood, Wilson, Hastings and Smith present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Noted. That a committee be appointed by the chair to draw up suitable resolutions on the death of Hon. Charles H. Green. — Messrs Wilson and Smith were appointed.

It was moved by the friends that Mr. Ben Field had been appointed by the selectmen to take the place on the Board made vacant by the death of Mr. Green until the town should elect his successor.

Noted. That Mr. Field be made a member of the executive committee.

Noted. That the meeting be dissolved.

W. Hay Smith. —

Pursuant to above action the following resolutions were drawn up by the committee appointed, signed by each member of the Board and and sent to the

family of Mr. Dickinson:—

—Northfield, Mass. Oct. 11. 1902.

Whereas,

In the course of that Infinite Goodness which overrules all things for our good, our fellow-Trustee, Mr. Charles H. Dickinson, has been summoned to the higher life: and while deeply mourning our loss in his removal, we wish to express our personal testimony to his cherished interest in fostering the beginnings of the Dickinson Memorial Library.

—Not only was he careful personally to fulfill all his responsibilities as a Trustee, not only did the management profit greatly by his sagacious judgment, but we feel that it was owing in very large measure to his intimate relations with Mr. Dickinson, the donor of the Library building, and to his wise counseling with him, which secured to the town of Northfield a structure so permanent in material and so beautifully situated.

Therefore be it Resolved:

That we, the Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial

Library do hereby express our great appreciation of the unfailing interest of the Chairman & Committee in the welfare of the Library and of the effective suggestions & encouragement which the Town of Smithfield has been so highly benefitted.

Be it further resolved.

That this section of the minutes be spread upon the records and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family.

(Signed) Hannah J. Wood Catherine S. Vinal
Lizzie M. Wilson Mary J. Field
M. W. Montague H. Hayward.

A true copy attest H. Hayward.
Secy.

July 18th 1908.

A meeting of the Trustees was called & order by the President at 2.30 P.M. at the Library with Mrs. Richardson and Messrs. Wood, Wilson, Field and Smith present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Noted That the old organization of the Board be continued.- Said organization is as follows.

President Dr. H. B. Wood.
Secretary H. Ray Smith
Treasurer B. F. Field.

Executive Committee.
Dr. H. B. Wood.
Mr. H. W. Montague.
Mr. B. F. Field.

Book Committee.
Rev. Dana H. Wilson
Mrs. G. L. Richardson
Rev. H. Ray Smith.

Mr. E. H. Howard, Superintendent of Public Schools stated to the Board that he would like their permission to use the two rooms in the basement of the Library for the primary department of the public school

the matter was thoroughly discussed and it was finally

Noted That the School committee at the time the use of the rooms for this purpose may be granted permission to do so for the period of two (2) years and that the conditions on which they shall be used shall be left with the Executive Committee in conference with the School Board.

Dr. Ward reported that he had personally expended the sum of $8.00 in planting programmes on the Library Grounds and it was

Noted That under the Village Improvement Society reimburse him the Library Fund.

The meeting was then adjourned without date.

H. Gay Smith
Sec.

May 24. 1909.

A meeting of the Directors was called to order by Mr. Wood at 2.10 P. M. with Mrs. Richardson and Messrs Wood, Montague, Tisdale & Smith present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Noted. The the organization of 1908 as recorded on page 47½ of these minutes be continued for the present year.

After a tour of inspection of the building and some counsel with the Superintendent the matter of necessary repairs was

Noted. That the meeting be dissolved

H. Hay Smith. Sec

Jan. 27. 1910 -

A meeting of the Trustees was called to order by the President at 2.30 P.M. with Mr. Richardson, and Messrs Wood, Montague, Field & Smith present. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Dr. Wood read a communication from the Mass. District Police on the condition of the exit from the 2nd. story of the Library building and the outside doors. The communication directed that a fire escape be provided and alterations made in stairs and outside doors in accordance with certain specifications they prescribed, and also that portable fire extinguishers be provided.

Noted. That the matter be left in the hands of the Executive Committee.

W. Farley Smith
Sec.

May 9th 1910.

A meeting of the Trustees was called to order by Dr. Wood at 2.15 P. M. with Messrs Wood, Field, Montague, Smith and Mr. Richardson present.

The Secretary's report was read and approved.

Noted. That the old organization of the Board be continued for the ensuing year. Said organization is as follows:-

President Dr. H. B. Wood
Secretary H. Kay Smith
Treasurer B. L. Field.

Executive Committee:

Dr. H. B. Wood
Mr. H. M. Montague
Mr. B. L. Field

Book Committee

Mr. C. L. Richardson
H. Kay Smith
Rev. A. C. Wilson

Noted. That Rev. A. C. Wilson be elected the sixth member of the Board of Trustees this in accordance with the vote of the Synod instructing the Board to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Rev. D. M. Wilson

Noted. - That Mr. Field be instructed to have a telephone installed in the Library. -

H. Fay Smith.
Sec.

Sept 1. 1910

A meeting of the Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library was held at the Library this afternoon and was called to order at 2 o'Clock by W.B. Ward, Chairman. Members present W.B. Ward, H. W. Montague, W.E. Wilson, Mrs. Catherine Richardson and P.S. Field.

On motion the Secy. being also P.S. Field was elected Secy. Pro-tem.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting is to consider what should be done with the money to be received from the Belcher Estate - $5,000.- of which the Widow's Expectation said would be paid within a few days. The Chairman also stated that owing to the terms of the vote passed by the town to borrow money for the building of the High School no money can be obtained before Oct 1st. M. The Town would like to borrow this money till such time as they can get it from the Banks.

After some discussion on motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Montague it was Voted that this money be temporarily loaned to the Town at 5%.

There was some discussion about the better heating of the building which it was agreed is unsatisfactory. No action was taken as it was doubtful if there is sufficient money on hand with which to make a change.

Adjourned. — Attest. Signed B. J. H.
A true copy attest Sec. Pro-tem
W. A. Smith Sec.

Oct 4th 1910.

A meeting of the Trustees was called to order at 2 P.M. by the Chairman with Messrs Wood, Montague, Wilson, Field and Smith present.

Minutes of last meeting were read & approved.

A statement was made to the effect that the money the Trustees voted on Sept. 1st to loan to the Town was still in the hands of Mr. Wright awaiting investment.

A representative of the Interstate Mortgage Trust Co. — Mr. Kaulback — was introduced and proceeded to tell of the advantages of investment in his company. After his withdrawal the matter was discussed and upon motion of Mr. Wilson seconded by Mr. Field it was

Noted That the Trustees recommend that bonds be purchased with this fund as follows:

Interstate Mortage Trust Co.	$2.000.	6%
Minneapolis Gas Light Co.	$1.000.	5%
Southern California Edison Co.	$1.000.	5%
Topeka Edison Co.	$1.000.	5%

Noted That we adjourn.

H. Hay Smith Secy.

March 21. 1911

A meeting of the Library Trustees was held in the Library building at 2. P. M.. In the absence of the Chairman it was called to order by the Secretary and Mr. A. C. Wilson was elected Chairman.

Voted. That the organization of the Board remain the same as last year, including officers and Committees. This organization is as follows.

Chairman. Dr. H. B. Wood.

Secretary. H. Fay Smith

Treasurer. B. F. Field.

Executive Committee:- H. B. Wood. B. F. Field and H. W. Montague.

Book Committee. - Mrs. C. S. Richardson, W. C. Wilson and H. Fay Smith.

It was explained to the Trustees that the Executors of the Belcher bequest had now transfered to the town treasurer the remainder of the portion coming to the Library; that said remainder amounted to $8480.62 and that it was become the duty of the Trustees to find suitable investment for it. After discussion it was

Voted. That it be the sense of the Board to purchase an Interstate Mortgage Trust Co. bond to the amount

of $3000.

Voted. To purchase two $1000. 5% Bonds of the Southern California Edison Co.

Voted. To purchase one $1000. 4½% Bond of the Consolidated Gas, Electric Light & Power Co. of Baltimore.

Voted. No action was taken relative to the investment of the remainder of the fund at present.

Voted That the Executive Committee be instructed to dispose of the wood burning furnaces at present in use in the Library building, and proceed to install a system adequate to heat the whole building.

Voted. That the Trustees meet regularly on the second Thursday of each month at the Library at 2 P.M. for the transaction of any business.

Voted. That the meeting adjourn until the 2nd Tuesday in April.

A true record.

Attest W. Hay Smith
Sec.

April 11. 1911

The Trustees met at 2. P. M. with Messrs Wood, Montegue, Wilson, Field & Smith present.

Voted That we approve the substitution of the purchase of a 5% Joplin bond for that of the Southern Cal. Edison Co. voted on Oct. 4th ult. The Chairman had reported that the latter could not be procured at the time the money was to be invested

Voted That we approve the purchase of a $500. 6% bond of the Stockton Gas & Electric Light Co.

Voted That new fiction be kept out but one week and cannot be renewed. Fines on this class of books shall be 2¢ per day. A notice to this effect shall be put in each new book of fiction

Voted That the Chairman obtain some printed letter heads and envelopes for the Library.

Voted That we adjourn.

H. Fay Smith Sec.

May 9th 1911

A meeting of the Trustees was held on Tues. P.M. at 2.45 with Mrs. Richardson and Messrs. Field, Wilson & Smith present. In the absence of Dr. Ward, Mr. Field was chosen Chairman.

The Secretary's report of the last meeting was read and approved.

Noted That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Probate Court and secure instructions concerning the responsibilities of the Library Trustees with reference to the investment and custodianship of the Belcher bequest.

Noted That we adjourn.

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

May 18- 1911

A special meeting of the Trustees was held in the Library at 2.30 P.M. - Present: Mrs. Richardson, Messrs Wood, Montague, Wilson, Smith.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. B. F. Field explaining that his acceptance of the office of Town accountant made it impossible for him to continue as a member of the Board. The Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Field a letter of appreciation and regret.

Voted That we ask the Selectmen to appoint Mr. Elliot W. Braun in his place.

Dr. Wood read a letter of specification prepared by Mark Hubbard Co. of the painting work was needed on the building. The cost was estimated at $225.00

Voted That the Chairman be instructed to proceed to secure same and to carry out these repairs substantially as outlined in these specifications.

The Secretary read a letter from Dana Malone concerning the duties and responsibilities of the Trustees with reference to the Belcher bequest.

Voted That the Chairman be instructed to notify the Selectmen that the town Treasurer

now holds bonds to the amount of over $13,000, the property of the Dickinson Memorial Library, and that they may take such action as they think best in regard to the amount of his bond.

Attest H. Fay Smith
Sec.

- June 13 - 1911 -

Regular monthly meeting of the Board with Mrs. Richardson & Messrs. Wilson, Brown and Smith present. - The Secretary's report was read and approved.

The matter of a proposed change in the shrubbery in front of the library was discussed and it was

Noted That the matter be laid on the table.

Noted That E. W. Brown be chosen a member of the Executive Committee.

Noted That we adjourn.

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

Attest.

July 11. 1911.

Regular monthly meeting of the board with Messrs. Wood, Brown and Wilson present.

Voted: to approve following bills: Carrie B. Wilson, Leominster magazines 37.25: Outlook $2.-: C.E. Laurial Co. books $77.09: telephone $7.-: Max Huber & Co. painting 223.75 C.A. Randall. Janitor $37.50: C.A. Randall labor on wood $10.- Mrs. C.A. Randall, $37.50: Total $432.09:

Voted: to allow the J.M.C.A. secretaries to hold their annual meeting in Library hall.

Voted: to send vote of thanks to Mrs. Geo. F. Angell for framed picture of her husband which she so kindly gave to the Library.

Voted: after meeting Mr. Willard, representative of Greenfield Elec. Lt. Co. to adjourn.

A.E. Wilson Secy pro tem.

Oct 10 1911

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees was called to order by the Secretary at 2.30 P.M. with Messrs Wilson Smith and Mr. Richardson present.

Noted That the following bills be approved, Smithfield Acetylene Lt. Co. $19.03, The Smithfield Press $1.00.

Noted That the Secretary tender the thanks of the trustees to L.B. Wood and D.M. Lifton for books donated.

Noted. That we adjourn.

W. Fay Smith
Sec'n

- Nov. 14. 1911 -

The regular meeting of the Trustees was called to order by the ~~Secretary~~ Chairman at 2.30 P.M. with Messrs Wood, Brown, Wilson, Smith present.

Noted That bills of Ethel Jackson of $15.00, Mr. C.A. Randall of $37.50, Mrs. C.A. Randall of $37.50, Baker & Taylor Co. of $24.11 be approved.

Noted. That the telephone be removed at the expiration of this month.

The meeting adjourned.

W. Fay Smith.

Dec. 5. 1911

A special meeting of the Trustees was called to order by the Chairman at 2.15 with [illegible]

Voted - [illegible] take the place of the regular monthly meeting.

Voted That the Secretary be instructed to correspond with the Royal Heater Co. of Gardner, Mass. and secure a date when their representative can come here and figure on heating the Library.

The following bills were approved W. J. Pembland. 2.12, H. A. Light Co. 7.32

The meeting adjourned

H. Langsmith Sec.

At a meeting of the Trustees called to meet at the office of the Greenfield Electric Light & Power Co. for the purpose of deciding concerning the installation of electric fixtures in the Library building it was decided to instruct the said Power Co. to proceed to install fixtures there & there selected by the Trustees, wiring the wiring already in the building if upon investigation they should decide that the wiring was all right. The work to be done by the day. - Members present Ward, Brown, Wilson & Smith

A true record

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

March 12. 1912

Regular meeting of the Board at the Library at 2. P. M. Members present Philbrick & Smith. —

Voted. That the bill of Greenfield Electric Light & Power Co. for $1.05 be allowed. Also their bills of Mch. 1st for $94.87 and $124.36 respectively. —

Voted That we adjourn.

H. Fay Smith.
Sec. —

April 4th 1912

Meeting called to order by Dr. Wood at 2. P. M. with Messrs Wood, Brown, Philbrick, Smith & Wilson.

Voted That we prepare ballots for officers for the ensuing year.

The result of the ballot was follows:
For President Dr H. G. Wood
" Secretary H. Fay Smith.
Executive Committee. Literary Committee
Brown Smith
Philbrick Mrs. Richardson
Wood. Wilson.

The following bills were approved and ordered paid. Greenfield E. Lt. & P. Co. for Mch. $1.65, over

and Jas. Wall for wood 1# 9.00

Noted — Voted that the Executive Committee be informed to approve bills of Greenfield E.L. & P. Co. in the future and send them to the Town Accountant to be paid forthwith.

May 14/1912.

Present Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Wilson.
Mr. Brown acted as Pres. Mr. Wilson sec'y pro tem.

Voted to approve bills: Baker & Taylor, (books) 42.49
Northfield Press (print'g book list) .50
Greenfld Elec. Lt Co. (1 Lamp.) .62
E.A. Randall (janitor.) 37.50
" " " (extra on wood.) ~~37.50~~
Mrs. " " " (libyn.) — 37.50

Voted to revise list of magazines for ensuing year in accordance with Eclectic Library Catalog, excluding therefrom Chautauquan, Geographic Mag. North Am. Review, Sci. Am. and adding thereto Lit Digest, Youth's Companion, Garden Mag, Cosmopolitan, Harper's Weekly, Good Housekeeping & Technical World.

Voted to authorize the Executive Com. to attend to removal of bushes in roadway in front of library.

A.E. Wilson sec'y pro tem.

June 11th " 1912

Meeting of the Trustees with Messrs Wilson and Smith present.

Noted — To approve following bills:-

Mrs. A. E. Wright for Magazines 49.30

Arnold Holton for Labor

Noted — Meeting adjourn

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

July 9th " 1912

Regular meeting of Trustees at 3. P. M. with Drs. Wood, Shillinck, Brown and Messrs Wilson and Smith present.

Noted — The matter of awarding the contract for steam heating apparatus to Mr. H. M. Bristol as submitted to the Trustees by him and dated July 6th " 1912 be left in the hands of the President and Secretary to sign if after consultation with Mr. Bristol the size of the boiler is found satisfactory and if the terms of payment are satisfactory

Noted — Meeting adjourn.

H. Fay Smith. Sec.

July 15th " 1912 -

Meeting called to order at 4 P.M. - Messrs Wood, Braun, Shillrick and Smith present.

Noted. - That the contract submitted by H.W. Bristol for heating the Library Building be closed providing he will insert in same to the effect that the work shall pass inspection by the State Police.

Noted That we adjourn.

H. Fay Smith
Sec. -

Aug. 13th " 1912

Meeting called to order by President at 2.30 with Messrs Wood & Smith present.

Noted That the following bills be approved:
The Baker & Taylor Co. $25.03 " . The Greenfield Recorder 1.50 " . - C.A. Randall 37.50 " Mrs. C.A. Randall 37.50 "

Noted That meeting adjourn. -

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

Sept. 24th 1912

Meeting called to order by friend A at 7.30 with Messrs Wood, Brown, Smith and Mr. Richardson present.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Noted. That the library hall be used by the young men and boys of the town for the purpose of studying parliamentary and legislative laws, on Saturday evenings during the coming fall and winter, under the supervision of Dr. Wood.

Noted That the bill of H.W. Wilson Co. of $4.00 be paid.

Noted That the regrets of the ladies that we leave them some chairs be laid on the table.

Noted That meeting stand adjourned.

A. Amy Smith.
Sec.

– Oct. 8th " 1912 –

Meeting called to order at 2.30 by Dr. Wood, Dr. Brown, Messrs Wilson & Smith present.

Voted That following bills be allowed: Smith Bros. Co. $1.00
N.E. Library Bindery $21.75

Voted That we stand adjourned.

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

– Nov. 12th " 1912 –

Meeting called to order at 2.30 by Dr. Wood.
Members present Messrs Wood, Brown, Wilson & Smith.

Voted That when the State Inspector declares the heating plant satisfactory the work be accepted and the balance of H. M. Pristali bill – $177.80 – be approved.

Voted That following bills be approved G. O. Dunnell, $9.30 "; ~~H. H. Chamberlain $19.50~~ " G. A. Randall $37.50 " Mrs. G. A. Randall $37.50 " G. A. Randall $4.00 " Baker & Taylor Co. $4.56 " G. A. Randall 3.9

Voted. That we adjourn.

H. Fay Smith,
Sec.

Dec. 10th 1912.

Meeting called to order at 2.30 by President.

Noted That following bill be approved & O'Donnell & Co. 3.56

Noted Meeting adjourn.

W. Mary Smith,
Sec.

Feb. 11. 1913

Trustees met at 2.30 with Messrs Wood & Smith present.

Following bills were offered. N.M. Bristol 2.45
H.O. Dunnell 12.12
Adjourned.

H. Fay Smith. Sec.

— March 11. 1913 —

Trustees met at 2.30 with Messrs Wood, Chillrick Howard & Smith present.

The trustees proceeded to organize as follows:

Chairman: Dr. Wood.

Secretary. Mr. Smith.

Executive Com.	Board Com.
Wood	Smith
Chillrick	Richardson
Brown	Howard

Noted. That Dr. Wood's disposition of the money received for the old Farmers as reported in Town Report was unfavorably by him oral report to day be approved.

Voted That bill of H.O. Dunnell for 18.90 be approved.

H. Fay Smith
Sec.

Adjourned.

April 8. 1913

Trustees met at 2.30 with Messrs Wood and Smith present.

Noted Read bill of $3.00 from [illegible] for $14.38 to shelf
Noted " " " H.H. Chamberlain for $1.75 " " "

Adjourned.

M. Fay Smith
Sec.

May 13. 1913 -

The Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library met in the Library May 13. 1913 with Dr. Wood in the chair and present, in addition to the chairman Dr. Brown & Mr. Howard.

A bill of $37.50 from Mr. C.A. Randall for services for quarter ending May 3rd was approved.

A bill of $37.50 from Mr. C.A. Randall for services for quarter ending May 3rd was approved.

The attention of the Trustees was drawn to the repairs needed in the mosaic floors, and Dr. Brown was requested to find out if Mr. Lamb was familiar with such work, and if so, to engage him to do it.

It was decided to call the attention of the Village Improvement Society to the desire of

of the Library Trustees again & have the Association provide programmes for the front of the Library.

There being no further business the meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Jno R. Howard
Sec. pro tem.

A true copy attest
H. Hay Smith. Sec.

June 10. 1913 -

A meeting of the Trustees held with Messrs Howard, Brown & Smith present.

Minutes of last meeting read & approved.

An application for the position of Librarian was read from Marguerite Holden of Rochester N.Y. The Secretary was asked to write and ask Miss Holden to meet Dr. Brown at Rochester next Sunday. He was to get acquainted and form some idea of her character & wants.

Voted That the Secretary be instructed to write Mr. Geo. L. Stafford of New London Conn. and acknowledge with thanks his gift to the library of an iron boiler, bottle carried during the war by Lieut. U.S. Steamer, a small bottler, and old documents.

a ring made of metal of bell of old church and the remnants of an old book, some indian relics and a spoon mould.-

Noted — Motion adjourn.

H. Ray Smith Sec.

— July 8th " 1913 —

A meeting of the trustees with Messrs. Wood, Brown & Smith present. — Minutes of last meeting read and approved.-

Dr. Wood reported complaint coming to him of failure to return reading books at end of one week.-

Noted — That librarian be instructed to notify patrons taking books that the must be returned to the library. The Secretary was instructed to have notices to this effect printed.

Noted — That the secretary be instructed to write Mr. Thos. Hart and demand the return of the book or shade trees he has out. He has been notified at least twice of his delinquency by the librarian.

Noted — Motion adjourn.

H. Ray Smith. Sec.

Aug. 12. 1913 -

A meeting of the Trustees with Messrs Ward, Howard, Shillinick and Smith present. The following bills were approved.

S. H. Kidder 1.25 H.R. Hunting Co. #43.01
Hartsfield Press 2.00 Mrs. A.E. Wright #49.20

Noted. To adjourn.

H. Gary Smith
Sec. -

Oct. 14. 1913:

A meeting of the Directors of Memorial Library was held in the library building Oct 14th 1913 with the President in the chair. There were present besides the chairman, Messrs Brown, Shillinck and Howard.

Mr. Howard was appointed Secretary pro tem. On motion Mr. Howard was directed to write a letter to Mr. Allen B. Elmer for twelve books recently given by him to the library.

On motion the following bills were allowed:

N.E. Library Bindery Co. for rebinding 13 vols. $2.25

Greenfield Elec. Lt. Power Co. $1.32

" " " " " $1.87

It was decided that the trustees should, among themselves, meet the bill for $2.25 for flowers sent to Harold Randall's funeral.

On motion it was voted that Mr. Brown should see to it that the grounds were properly cared for for the winter.

On motion Mr Brown was authorized to buy a cord of wood from Arthur Field or elsewhere.

On motion it was voted that when one of the new one week books is kept out of the library for more than one week there shall

be a fine of two cents a day until returned.

On motion, it was voted that "The Inside of the Inn", by Winston Churchill, be bought, to be used as an experiment with a 3 day volume, a charge being made for the use of 5¢ for the first week and five cents for an additional week, no person being allowed to keep the book more than two weeks.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

John R. Howard, Jr.

A true copy attest
Sec. pro tem

M. Kay Smith, Sec.

Nov. 11. 1913 -

The trustees met at the library with Messrs Wood, Brown, Howard, Smith & Mr. Richardson present.

Voted. That we purchase 1 dozen of the patent binders for magazines for experiment.

Voted. That we join the Western Mass. Library Club.

Voted. That we set aside the relic room to be used as a childrens reading room.

Voted. That the executive committee be instructed to have a bookcase built into the childrens room in accordance with Miss Brown's suggestion.

Voted. That Mr. Howard be instructed to purchase 1 dozen chairs for the children's room at a price not exceeding $2.00 per chair.

Voted. That Mr. Richardson be requested to select a committee of ladies and with their aid secure suitable decoration for the walls of the children's room.

Voted. That the bill of C. E. Barton for $15.00 be affirmed.

Voted. That we adjourn.

W. Fay Smith.
Sec.-

Dec. 9. 1913.-

Members present Messrs Howard, Brown & Smith.

A note of thanks from Mr. Randall for the flowers sent by the trustees to the funeral of her son were read.

The following bills were affirmed:-

Hartford Press. 1.00

C. B. Randall - janitor 37.50

" " labor 2.00

Mrs. C. B. Randall. Librarian 37.50.

Adjourned.-

W Fay Smith Sec.

Jan. 13 1914

Members present Wood & Smith

Bills Approved

Greenfield E. L & P Co	$1.00
Max Hubey & Co	2.54
H. M. Bristol	2.50
Boiler Inspector	2.00

Adjourned

N. Fay Smith
Sec.

Feb 10, 1914

Members Present: Wood, Brown, Richardson & Philbrick

Voted That we assess Non-Residents, who use Library two months or more, a tax of $2.00 and for less than that period a tax of $1.00 per month

Voted That we have printed cards showing the action of the trustees in this matter.

Voted That we open the Library every week day through July and August.

Voted That an appropriation of $700 is deemed necessary for the coming fiscal year and that we ask for same

at the annual town-meeting
Matter of Extension Service through
branch stations was discussed & action deferred

Bills Approved

Mrs	C. A. Randall	37.50
	C. A. Randall	37.50
	F. W. Wilson Co	7.00
	Evans Bros.	5.00

R. H. Philbrick
Sec Pro Tem.

March 12, 1914.

Members Present Richardson & Philbrick
Several Bills and all other business
laid on table
Voted That we adjourn R. H. Philbrick
Sec Pro Tem.

Minutes of a meeting of the Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library, Tuesday, April 14, 1914.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 with Mr. Brown in the chair and present in addition thereto Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Howard.

On motion, Mr. Howard was elected Secretary to take the place made vacant by the death of Mr. Smith.

On motion, the following bills were approved:--

G. O. Dunnell - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	$37.56
N. E. Library Bindery Co. - - - - - - - - -	13.50
Greenfield Elec. Light & Power Co. - - - -	6.93

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to prepare and bring to the May meeting of the Trustees a statement showing the balance to the credit of the Library, the income available for the current year, and, on the basis of previous years, a suggested budget for the current year; and, furthermore, in the future to keep a ledger account of income and expenditures to be submitted to the Trustees from time to time.

On motion, it was voted that the next meeting of the Trustees be held the second Wednesday of the month, instead of the second Tuesday, and thereafter upon Wednesday unless otherwise voted, for the reason that the newly elected Trustee, Mr. Duley, cannot attend a meeting on Tuesday.

On motion, Mr. Duley was elected to membership in the Book Committee.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Signed _____ Secretary.

Minutes of a meeting of the Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library, May 14, 1914.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30, with Dr. Wood in the chair and the following Trustees present: --Mrs. Richardson, Dr. Brown, Dr. Philbrick, Mr. Duley, and Mr. Howard.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved.

On motion, it was voted that hereafter the monthly meeting of the Trustees be held the second Thursday of the month, instead of Wednesday as previously voted, in order to meet on a day when the Library was open.

On motion, the following bills were approved:--

Mr. C. A. Randall, Janitor	$37.50
Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	37.50
Mr. G. O. Dunnell, (coal)	8.
The H. R. Huntting Co., Inc.	2.55
" " " " "	37.

Mr. Howard presented his resignation, due to the fact that he was to move from Northfield. On motion, it was voted to accept the resignation and to extend to Mr. Howard the thanks of the Trustees for his faithful service and their regrets at his leaving.

The Secretary presented the following statement of the financial status on May 1st, 1914:--

Interest on $138.42 balance of original Belcher Fund			$ 5.58
Coupons collected to April 15th			745.00
			750.58
Bills paid since Town Meeting	$84.00		
Bills approved at April meeting	57.99		141.99
Balance on hand			608.59
Expected interest on investments			
Interstate Mfg. Trust Co. 1/2	$150.00		
Stocton Gas and Electric	30.00		
Conn. Gas, Elec. Lt. & Pr. Co.	45.00		
So. California	100.00		
Topeka Edison Company	50.00		
Interstate Mfg. Trust Co.	120.00		
Minneapolis Gas 1/2	25.00		
Joplin and Pitts. Rail Co. 1/2	25.00	$545.00	
Town appropriation	$325.00		
Due Northfield Farms	26.00	299.00	844.00
Amount available for balance of year.			$1452.59

The following tentative budget was proposed by the Secretary for the eleven months constituting the current fiscal year:

F. L. Duley was elected Secretary.

Voted that Dr. Wood be authorized to confer with C. H. Webster, Agent, in regard to re-newing the insurance on the Library building, and to inquire about rates of in-surance on the contents.

Voted that the amount of insurance sought be $15,000.

Voted that the Library Trustees place an article in the warrant for the next Town Meeting, asking for the possession and handling of Library funds.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, in the chair, and members: Dr. Philbrick, Dr. Brown, and Mr. Duley.

Voted that we pay C. H. Webster, Agent, the sum of $37.50 as premium on renewing the insurance on the books in the ~~town~~ Library.

Voted to pay $1.50 for subscription to the Greenfield Recorder.

Voted to pay 4.00 " " " " Atlantic Monthly
" " " 2.00 " " " "

Voted to order the list of books selected by the Book Committee with reinforced binding from H. R. Hunting Co. A copy of the list enclosed, and dated June 11, 1914.

$37.50
1.50
4.20
2.00
$45.00

F. L. Duley, Secretary

July 8, 1914.

Present Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Dr. Brown, Mr. Duley.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Voted Voted to approve insurance policy No. 247578, C. H. Webster, Agent, on the Library Building for $15000, premium $150, and to pay the latter sum.

Voted Voted to reimburse Dr. A. H. Philbrick for advancing money to pay bill for subscriptions to the periodicals, amount $54.40.

Voted Voted to pay R. H. Hunting Co. $11.95 for eleven new books.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

$150.00
54.40
11.95
$216.35

Aug. 11, 1914.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley, Dr. Brown.

Voted	Voted to pay H. R. Huntting Co.	for books	112.98
"	" " " " "	" " "	2.87
"	" " Geo. E. Holton	" labor	2.10
"	" " F. J. Garvard, Boston	" binding	25.56
"	" " Northfield Press	" labels	.50
"	" " C. A. Randall	" janitor's service	37.50
"	" " Mrs. " " "	" librarian's "	51.50
"	" " H. R. Huntting	" books	.98
"	" " E. O. Dunnell	" coal	8.69
			242.62

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

90

July 8, 1914.

Books.

Expended

Left.

June 11	75.00	
July 8	216.35	
Aug. 11	242.62	508.97

1452.59
543.97
948.62

1.50
2.00
2.40
11.98
112.64
190.62

Mrs. Randall to Feb 25 150.00
Peter 29.50
Mrs Randall 112.50
Coal 75.00
366.50

Oct. 15 Lighting 7.37

Sept. 28, 1914.

Present Mrs. Richardson, Dr. Wood, Dr. Brown, Mr. Duley.

Voted Voted to pay Max Huber for painting 2.77

F. L. Duley, Secretary.

Nov. 3, 1914.

Present Mrs. Richardson, Dr. Wood, Dr. Brown, Mr. Duley.

Voted to pay the following:

Franklin L. Forbush, Inspector of Boilers,	2.00
Greenfield Elec. L. & P. Co. for Light	9.90
H. R. Hunting, for books	15.90
Mrs. Randall up to Nov. 3.	1.96
Mr. " " " "	37.50
Mrs. Randall, extra work for August	37.50
Children's Ency. (Standard Ref. Work)	13.00
	20.00
	137.76

Dec. 29, 1914

"Tonder" "Play day Stories" Sarah Orne Jewett.

$19.47 balance on Dec. 20, 1914.

Dr. Wood and Mr. Dudley present.

Voted to pay A.L.A. Pub. Board for A.L.A. Booklist, 1/10 — $2.50

Voted to pay H.R. Huntting Co. for books — 1.84

" " " F.L. Dudley for one broom — .45

" " " B.B. Johnson Waltham, Mass., for book on Lincoln — 1.00

$5.79

au. 8 To Mrs. A. E. Wright, paid, for magazine subscriptions:

Class 23	Technical World	
	Popular Mechanics	$1.50
17	Little Folks	
30	Travel Magazine	
	British Weekly	2.85
	Contemporary Review	8.50
	Saturday "	8.40
	Revue des Deux Mondes	13.50
90		
5		
7.50		7.50
		38.75

Feb. 2nd

Bills approved

H. R. Hunting,	of Jan. 9,	for books,	$13.71
" "	" "	" "	2.70
" "	" "	12 "	19.61
" "	" Aug. 5, 1914,	" "	5.85
H. W. Wilson Co.	Dec. 31, 1914,	" Reader's Guide	4.00
Gfld Elec. Lt. Pow. Co.	Dec. 12 – Jan. 14		3.08
			$58.95

Feb. 11, 1915.

The Committee met in the Library building with Dr. Wood in the chair.

Present Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Mr. Buzzell, and Mr. Duley.

Moved and voted that the officers for 1913-1914 serve for 1914-1915.

Moved and voted that Mr. Buzzell serve on the book committee.

Approved the items on page 96.

" " following bills:

H. R. Hunting Co.	Books	$4.14
F. W. Harness	Repairing clock	1.50

Voted to meet the 2nd Thursday in each month at 4.20.

Voted to adjourn.

F. L. Duley, Secretary

Mar. 11, 1915.

Present. Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson,

The following bills were approved:

Lighting charge		$3.08
N. P. Wood, for 270 cu. ft. wood		10.55
E. L. Barnard, date Feb. 27, building		17.02
Houghton, Mifflin, " " 24, books		4.52
H. R. Huntting Co., " " 25, "		15.84
" " " " Mar. 3, "		1.80
C. A. Randall, labor,	Nov. 3, 1914 - Feb. 3, 1915	5.00
" " " , date Feb. 3, janitor's service		37.50
Mrs. " " " " " librarian's "	(same as above)	37.50

F. L. Duley.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Baggzell, Mr. Duley.

Lighting	$ 1.76
Subscription to Revue des Deux Mondes	13.00
" " Greenfield Recorder	1.50
H. R. Huntting Co. for 4 books	5.05

Voted to instruct the Secretary to write a letter of thanks to Miss Fanny Field, ~~Easton~~ Auburndale, Mass., for her continued gift of the "Illustrated London News."

~~4~~ May ~~1~~ 8, 1915.

Present Dr. Wood and Mr. Duley.

Lighting	Apr. 12 - May 12	4.40
W. H. Gild	Sub. Democrat & Monitor	13.00
Robbins & Evans	1 waste basket	1.50
Crowell Pub. Co.	1 sub. Woman's Home Comp.	1.50
H. R. Hunting Co.	Books	2.44
" "	"	1.66
" "	"	21.78
" "	"	10.84

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

June 10, 1915.

Present Dr. Wood, Rev. Buzzell, Mr. Duley.

Approved:

Houghton, Mifflin	Atlantic Monthly	$4.00
H. R. Huntting Co.	Books	1.35
" " " "	"	2.15
Chase Broz. Co.	Shrubs	17.50

(To collect $15 from Village Improvement Society on this bill)

Written July 8

Voted to open the Library daily in July and August.

Writ July 8 ~~Voted to~~ Secretary instructed to acknowledge a gift of books by Rev. Geo. R. Witte.

F. L. Duley, Secy.

Present Dr. Wood, Rev. Buzzell, Mr. Duley.

Welcome extended to E. F. Howard, the new member of the Committee.

Approved:

S. F. Sutherland, for labor	$1.75
H. R. Huntting Co. " books	40.14
" " " " " "	1.35
Mrs. A. E. Wright, " magazine sub.	47.80
~~Lighting bill~~	1.87

Voted to send the Librarian to the Amherst Librarian's Conference at our expense.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Aug. 19, 1915.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Buzzell, Mr. Duley.

Approved:

Lighting bill	$3.74
H. R. Huntting Co. Books, bill of July 31	5.05
" " " " " " " " 9	5.93
" " " " " " " " 22	9.02
" " " " " " " " Aug. 9	1.35
E. D. Brainard & Co. binding	1.10
Mrs. A. E. Wright, Mag. Subscriptions	8.85
C. A. Randall, Janitor	37.50
Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	50.00

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Sept. 23, 1915.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley.

Approved:

Lighting bill	$3.52
Popular Mechanics subscription	1.50

F. L. Duley, Secretary

Nov. 11, 1915.

Present. Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, ~~Hon. Rich~~ Mr. Bunnell, Mr. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Approved:

	$
Lighting	2.75
Geo. N. Kidder, supplies	.25
Butler & Ullman, flowers	6.32
F. D. Barnard & Co., binding	12.20
~~H. R. Hunting Co.~~	~~15.20~~
H. R. Hunting Co., books	21.33
~~21.33~~	
Mrs. A. E. Wright, Magazines	11.75
C. A. Randall, Janitor	37.50
" " " extra work for Library Convention	5.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	37.50
" " " Extra for August	13.00
	147.57

Voted to keep the Library ~~to be~~ kept open every weekday evening beginning Dec. 1st.

Voted to instruct Dr. Wood to look up a substitute.

Voted to invite the agent of the State Library Commission for Children's rooms to assist our Librarian. F. L. Duley Dec 4.

Present: Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Buzzell, Mr. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Approved:

Old Corner Book Store,	book	$.55
Lighting		5.61
H. R. Hunting Co.	books	6.27
" " "	"	21.46
" " "	"	7.07
		$40.96
Mrs. A. E. Wright, Mag. Sub.		22.00

Voted to instruct Dr. Wood to arrange the matter of the use of the hall for a class in dancing, asked for by Dr. Newton et al.

Jan.

Passed to Mr. Field on dec. 15, Houghton Mifflin Co. 5.91

Present Dr. Wood,

Approved Old Corner Bookstore, Books	3.15
J. L. Hammond, labor with team	2.25
Lighting bill	4.29
A. L. Assoc., booklet subscription	2.50
	$12.19

Resignation of Rev. Mr. Buzzell read and accepted. Voted to extend a vote of thanks to Mr. Buzzell for his service on the Committee.

Voted to instruct Dr. Wood to consult with Mrs. Welch in regard to the management of the children's room.

F. L. Dudley, Sec'y.

Feb. 10, 1916.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Webster, Dr. Philbrick, Mr. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Voted that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dr. Wood as President.

Voted that Mr. Duley serve as Secretary.

Voted that a vice-President be elected.

Voted that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. L. Catharine Richardson as vice-President.

Approved

	$
Houghton, Mifflin, Life of Stratheona	5.94
Bobbstore, book	2.00
Mr. Randall, Janitor	37.50
Mrs. " , Librarian	50.50
Arthur H. Bolton, labor on bookcase	15.00
Lighting bill, Dec. 14–Jan. 14	4.51
H. W. Wilson Co, Guide to Per. Lit.	4.00

Report — Dr. Wood reported that Mrs. Welch volunteered to take charge of the Children's Room for one year without pay.

Book Committee — Mrs. Duley, Mrs. Richardson, and Mrs. Webster were appointed a book committee.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Feb. 17, 1917.

Present Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Webster.

A general discussion in regard to opening a game-room in the basement.

F. L. Dudley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Webster

Approved Light — 4.51
L. M. Bristol — .65

[redacted] Voted ~~to empower~~ instruct the Executive Committee to put heating in the two toilet-rooms.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Apr. 12, 1916.

Dr. Philbrick

Present Dr. Wood, E. F. Howard, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Webster, and Mr. Duley.

Approved Subscription to Greenfield Recorder, Feb. 14, 16
to Feb. 14, 1917 1.50
Light " " to Mar. 13, 4.73

The Com. then went into a Com. of the whole as a book-committee F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, E. F. Howard, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Duley.

Approved	Mrs. Randall's salary as Librarian	57.50
	Mr. " " " Janitor	37.50
	Houghton, Mifflin & Co., for books	5.94
	Geo. E. Holton " labor	2.00
	Light. Mar. 13 – Apr. 13	2.75
	Ruth D. Low, for book	.50
	Nat'l Assoc. for Cured Tubercular, for book	1.25

June 22, 1916

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Duley.

Approved	H. R. Hunting Co. for books	81.58
	" " " " " "	22.15
	" " " " " "	3.02
	J. R. Cummings, for painting and calcimining basement room	30.00
	Dr. N. O. Wood, for work hired and for fertilizer on shrubs	1.75
	Village Improvement Society for 3 Audubon Charts	4.50
	Light, Apr. 13 - May 12	3.63
	" May 12 - June 13	3.30

Present

Approved

Henry Malkan, New York, Books			$ 52.75
Dodd, Mead & Co.		"	5.00
Standard Dict. of Facts, bought from agent			6.75
H. R. Huntting Co.	Books		1.25
		1 set Hudson Shakespeare 11.	
" " " "		1 " Mark Twain	RT-33 32.33
" " " "			10.92

Aug. 2, 1916.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Duley.

		$
Approved	Granite State Pub. Co., books	9.25
	Light	2.42

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Duley.

Approved	Light, July 14 — Aug. 17	$ 2.42
	" Aug. 17 — Sept. 14	2.97
	Janitor May 3 — Aug. 3	37.50
	Librarian	62.00
	as below	25.00

Voted Voted that the Trustees pay to Mrs. Ambler Welch the amount of $25, in appreciation of her work for the children

Oct. 20, 1916.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley.

Lighting $ 6.82

Boiler inspection 2.00

Voted to communicate to Mrs Frank Harmon the fact that the Trustees are unable to grant to the Northfield Tennis Club the use of the hall for purposes of raising money for interests outside of the Library.

F. L. Duley, Secy.

Present ~~Dr.~~ Wood, Mr. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Approved	Book, from Mrs. ~~Sam~~ A. Timmon		2.00
	Wood, " Thos. Quinlan		7.00
	Books, " H. R. Huntting Co.		1.25
	Books, " " " " "		68.55
	" " " " " "		50.47
	Librarian		60.00
	Janitor	231.27	37.50

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Dec. 7, 1916.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Approved From Oct. 10 — Nov. 21 6.00

Magazine subscriptions, by Mrs. A. E. Wright	33.35
H. R. Hunting for books	30.85
" " " " " Inter. Ency.	100.00
" " " " "	1.30

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley, Dr. Shilbrick.

Approved	H. W. Wilson Co., subs. to Periodical Lit.	$6.00
"	H. M. Bristol, plumbing	4.88
"	F. D. Barnard & Co., binding	18.62
"	Lighting	6.05

Voted To increase the janitor's salary from $150 to $200 a year.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Voted To instruct Dr. Wood to secure an assistant Library.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Feb. 22, 1917.

Present Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Mr E. F. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Report Dr. Wood reported that Miss Isabel Thompson agreed to accept the appointment as Asst. Librarian.

Voted That the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Dr. Wood as President.

Voted That the President cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Duley as Secretary.

Voted That the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. Catherine Richardson as Vice - President.

Voted That Mrs Richardson, Mrs. Welch and Mr. Duley serve as Book Committee for the coming year.

Voted That Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, and E. F. Howard serve as Executive Committee.

Approp. Lighting bill Jan. 15 – Feb. 14, 1917 7.87

Votes To authorize the President to grant the use of the Library basement room for any study purposes.

F. L. Dudley, Sec'y.

Mar 8, 1917.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Duley.

Approp.	Janitor's service, 1 mo., Feb. 3 – Mar. 3	$16.67
"	Robbins & Evans shovel & hod	.90
"	G. O. Dunnell, coal @ $8.75 ton	10.87
"	C. A. Randall, Janitor, Nov. 3 - Feb. 3	87.50
"	Mrs. " " " , Librarian " "	56.50

Voted To grant the Librarian a vacation of two weeks on full pay.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Duley

Approf.	H. R. Huntting Co., books	24.57
"	Northfield Water Co., Aug. 1, 1916 – Feb. 1, 1917	13.21
"	Nelson Doubleday, set Thompson-Seton	9.50
"	N. Y. Times, Current History	3.00
"	Janitor's salary, one month	16.67
"	H. M. Bristol, plumbing	41.69
"	S. O. Dunnell, coal	34.48
"	Lighting, Feb. 17 – Mar. 15	3.52

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

May 3, 1917.

Present Dr. Philbrick, Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Duley.

Approved	H. A. Hunting Co.,	Coolers, bill of Apr. 27th,	3.20
	" " "	" " " 15th	5.54
	" " "	" " " 1 "	30.43
	Chas. E. Baxter, janitor	" " May 1,	16.66
	Light, Mar. 15 – Apr. 13		4.95
	Thos. Quinlan, 1 cord wood,		5.00
	L. D. Dunnell, 1200 # coal,		5.69

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Duley, Mr. Howard,

Approved E. L. Morse for sawing wood $2.00

Voted to instruct the Secretary to write to the Town Treasurer, calling his attention to Sections 7 and 8, of Chap. 38, of the Revised Statutes, in regard to the administration of the Library's funds.

June 7, 1917.

Present Dr. Wood, Duley,

Approved Chas. E. Baxter, Janitor,	16.66
Greenfield Recorder, Feb 14, 1917 – Feb 14, 1918	1.50
H. R. Huntting Co., Coal	1.45
Light, Apr. 13 – May 16	5.94
Insurance on Library Building	
Policy 292746, Merrimack Mutual 16.75 ~~162.50~~	
292945 31.40	
Dividends 188.90 30.00	
154.90	152.90
Home Policy	39.25
Librarian, Feb. 3 – May 3	49.50
G. O. Dunnell, coal	5.07

Aug. 1, 1917.

Present — Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson,

Approved	Librarian's salary, May 3 — Aug. 3	64.50
"	H. R. Heating Co., work	1.25
"	C. E. Baxter, Janitor, June + July	33.32
"	Dodd, Mead & Co., Year Book for 1916	4.50
"	Northfield Press, printing	4.25
"	Light, May 16 — June 19	3.85
	" June 19 — July 13	2.64
"	Isabella C. Thompson, work as ass't Librarian	15.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Sept. 6, 1917.

Present Dr. Wood

Approved	C. E. Baxter, Janitor, one month, August	$ 16.66
	H. R. Hunting Co., books	2.12
	Lighting	4.67
	Isabella C. Thompson, work as asst lib	2.00
	~~Insurance~~	

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Dudley.

Voted	Janitor's salary, for September		$ 16.66
	G. O. Dunnell, coal		124.70
"	Light, Aug. 15 – Sept. 15		4.18
	H. R. Huntting & Co, books		9.35
	" " " " "		16.39
	Porter E. Sargent, "	2.25 & 2.25	4.50
	Boylston Pub. Co. book		75

Nov. 1, 1917.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Duley.

Approved	C. E. Baxter, janitor, Oct. salary	$16.66
"	Light, Sept. 15 – Oct. 14	4.73
"	F. L. Forbush, for boiler inspection	2.00
"	Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian	59.50

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Mr Duley, Mr. Howard, Mrs. Philbrick

Approved	H. R. Huntting & Co.	Books	3.92
	"	"	2.07
	"	"	27.70
	"	"	6.95
	C. E. Baxter, janitor		16.66
	~~A. H. Hewson~~, books		1.85
	Amer. Ornithologists' Union		3.00
	Northfield Water Co., Feb. 1—Aug. 1		4.97

Jan. 3rd, 1918.

Present. Mr H.R. Ward and
E. F. Howard.

Light bill Nov. 16 to Dec. 21 $6.49

No other business was
transacted, and after con-
siderable informal discussion
the meeting adjourned,

E. F. Howard
Clerk Pro tem.

L.E. Baxters Bill $ 11.66

Jan. 24, 1918.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Dulley

		$
Approved	Robbins & Evans, can & sifter	7.00
"	E. J. Barnard & Co., binding	30.25
"	H. M. Bristol, plumbing repairs	5.10
"	H. R. Huntting Co., books	43.52
"	Light	2.53

F. L. Dulley, Secy.

Mar. 9, 1918.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley,
E. F. Harvard

Approved	Standard Book Co., books	$ 4.10
	A. L. A. Publishing Board, subs.	2.50
	H. R. Huntting Co., books	53.44
	" " " " "	6.75
	C. E. Baxter, janitor	16.66
	Light	1.21
	Water bill	19.65

Apr. 8. 1918

Present Dr. N.P. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, E.F. Howard. Dr. R.H. Philbrick.

The Trustees re-organized by electing Dr. N.P. Wood Chairman and E.F. Howard Secretary.

Mrs. Catharine Richardson was unanimously re-elected as Vice-president.

It was voted that the regular meeting of the Trustees shall be on the first Saturday of the month at 2-30, p.m.

Bills approved

Lights — — —	.66
H.R. Hunting, Book	1.45
H.W. Wilson Co.	6.00
Frank Atwood-Janitor	7.00

Voted to keep the library open Tues. Thurs. & Sat. afternoon and evening until further action.

The following committees were elected. Book Committee, R.H. Philbrick, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Wilde, Executive Committee, N.P. Wood, F.L. Dudley, E.F. Howard.

Meeting adjourned. E.F. Howard, Secy.

May 4, 1918.

Library Room, 2-30 p.m.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Howard.

The following bills were approved:

A M Dunnell	7.20
Mrs. C A Randall to May 3rd	78.
Lights	1.54
Evans Brothers	1.25
C.E. Baxter to May 1,	24.99

It was voted to open the library every evening during May and June commencing May 6.

It was voted to authorize Mrs. Welch to make needed repairs and to make a "Shelf-list reading"

Meeting then adjourned.

E. F. Howard,
Secy.

June 1 1915

Wm S. L. Richardson and A P Stone met in Library and approved bill Brunsfield Electric Light and Power Co $1.65

Adjourned for next meeting before doing other business.

A P Stone
For the Sec

June 15, 1918.

Library Hall.

Meeting of the trustees was held at 8 p.m. at which Mr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Hely, Dr. Hultnick and Ex. Howard were present.

Mr. Howard's resignation as Secretary was received and accepted. Mr. Hely was then elected Secretary.

Bills as follows were approved

The H. R. Printing Co. $ 1.35

C. E. Baxter's Bill --

Dr. Wood stated that the bill of C. E. Baxter had been examined and was pronounced correct.

It was ordered that the Daily papers -- bills The Springfield Republican and the

Mrs Lyn K Innes was elected, & it was also decided to take the Kansas City, Mo., a weekly, on our list.

The meeting was adjourned.

E. F. Howard, Sec.

July 6, 1918.

Present Dr. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mr Duley.

Allowed

C. E. Baxter, janitor	$16.66
G. O. Dunnell, 4300 lbs. coal @ 10	21.50
Light	2.31

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Aug. 14, 1918.

Pres. Dr. Wood, Mr. E. F. Howard, Mrs. Daley.

			$
Approp.	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian		63.00
"	H. H. Crozier, janitor & service		19.97
"	H. R. Hunting Co., Books		15.26
"	" " " "		1.55
"	N. W. Kent, lock and labor		16.10
"			

Sept 7, 1918.

Present Dr. H. P. Wood, Mrs. Daley

		$
Electric Lights		7.29
H. R. Hunting Bill	Aug. 24	3.75
" "	" 31	12.96
Water	Holden Water Co.	1.18
Janitor H. H. Crozier	Aug.	18.

No other business appearing it was voted to adjourn.

Attest.

Sec'y. pro tem.

Present Dr. Hood, Mr. Duley,

Approved

F. S. Barnard & Co.	20.22
H. R. Huntting & Co.	11.78
" " " " "	8.58
H. H. Crozier, care of library	18.00
H. M. Bristol, repairs & supplies	42.23
L. S. Quinlan	20.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Nov. 15, 1918.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Howard, Mr. Duley.

Approved

Light, Sept. 17 - Oct. 25 = 2.40 Previous 2.64	5.04
Gertrude Callender, for work as assistant	11.00
F. L. Forbush, for boiler inspection	2.00

Dec. 19, 1918.

Present Mr. Duley, Mrs. Welch

		$
Approp.	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	56.00
	F. J. Barnard & Co. binding	3.68
	Light, Oct. 25 - Nov. 15	4.56
	" Nov. 15 - Dec. 13	5.16

F. L. Duley, Sec

Present Mr. Howard, Dr. Philbrick, Mr. Dailey.

Approp. H. H. Crozier for janitor's work. $40.00
Jordan Marsh Co. for 1 sifter 4.50

Feb. 6, 1919.

Present Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Welch, Rev. E. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley.

F. L. Duley was chosen temporary chairman and secretary.

Officers Dr. N. P. Wood was elected President.
F. L. Duley " " secretary.

Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Welch, and Rev. M. Thompson were elected the Book Committee.

Dr. Wood, Rev. Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Duley were elected the Building Committee.

Appropriations

Mrs. Randall, Librarian		$50.00
" Miss Gertrude Callender		7.00
" H. H. Crozier, Janitor		18.00
" Light, Dec. 13 — Jan. 16		7.65

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present | G. L. Thompson, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. Pulley

Approved

Light	6.09
Janitor service in March, by H. H Crozier	18.00
F. W. Harness, repairs	2.00
H. A. Lamb, "	4.50
Gertrude A. Callender, ass't janitor (Feb. 3 weeks, March 4 weeks)	31.50
Nat'l Assoc. for Providing Employment for the Cured Tubercular	1.50
Review of Reviews Co. for books	16.20
L. F. Gunnell " coal deliv. in Jan	76.80

May 8, 1919

Present: George L. Thompson
Mrs. B. M. Nelson

Approved. Bill of Arthur T. White $32.25
" " Gertrude B. Callender 23.00
" " Library Bureau 3.46
" " H. H. Crosier 18.00
" " Springfield ~~Springfield~~ Rep. 8.00
" " H. W. Wilson 6.00
" " Greenfield Recorder 2.00

George L. Thompson, Sec. pro tem

June 5, 1919

Trustees met at the library at 4.00 P.M.
Records of last meeting read.
Moved and seconded that Mrs. Catherine Richardson be nominated as Vice President for the remainder of the year. So voted.

Voted to keep the library open afternoon and evening during July and August.

Voted to empower Mr. Wood to arrange for closing the library during the month of June for repairs.

The following bills were approved

Gertrude Callender - services	18.00
Greenfield Elec. L. & P. Co.	6.09
Emerson Thor - Linoleum & Co	43.69
~~Harper & Bro~~ -	35.00
H.W. Wilson & Co	8.64
H. H. Crozier	18.00
N. Y. Times	9.00

Moved that a "No Dog" sign be printed for the library and posted as needed.

Dr. Wood was asked to look after a special appropriation at the next Town meeting if the money is needed.

J. L. Thompson - acting Sec.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley

Appropriations

Lovell & Brown, Paint—supplies	19.85
H. H. Crozier Janitor	18.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall, Feb. 3–8 $3.50, June 9 – July 3 $12.00	15.50

F. L. Duley
Sec. Sec.

August 7, 1919.

Present. Dr. N. P. Wood, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Welch, and Mr. Thompson.

Bills approved.

Greenfield Elec. L. & P. Co. (coal.)	6.00
Frank J. Wilder - picture of old Holton hs.	5.00
H. R. Huntting Co. - books	1.50
H. H. Crocker - janitor	18.00
Mrs C. A. Randall - librarian	39.00

Voted to buy picture of old Holton place.

Voted to increase librarian's pay from 16 to 25 cents an hour, said increase to begin July 1, 1919.

Voted to set apart a shelf space for books produced by Northfield residents, said books being by authors residing now, or at any other time in the Town of Northfield.

Voted to instruct librarian to report the names of any persons who disturb the readers either by loud talking or unnecessary noise, such persons to be deprived of the privileges of the library for such time as the trustees may determine.

Present Mrs. Richardson, ~~Hon.~~ Rev. E. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley, Dr. N. S. Wood

Approved

Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian, 9/3 – 11/3		$ 55.50
Miss Gertrude Callender, " ~~Sept. 8, 10, 15, 17, 19, 22~~		11.00
H. Crozier, Janitor		13.50
" " painting and varnishing		52.70
El. Lt. + Pow. Co.		12.21 ?
Boiler Inspection		2.00

Secretary instructed to write Fld. El. Lt. + Pow. Co., asking for an itemized statement since Jan. 1, 1919.

Voted to purchase a Visitor's Register for the Library.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

December 7, 1914

Trustees met, Dr. R. P. Wood, Dr. R. H. Pillsbury, and H. L. Thompson present.

Other F. White - periodicals	$8.25
H. L. T. Lindall - librarian	25.00
Emerson Thom - linoleum	15.75
Express - to be paid to R. P. Wood	.53
H. H. Bowen - Janitor	18.00
Empire Elec. & Power Co	8.09

Voted to empower Mr. Thompson with authority to extend sections of book case in reference room to hold books and pamphlets of local authors as provided in the vote of August 7th.

Respectfully submitted

Louis L. Thompson

Sec. pro tem.

Present Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Rev. G. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley.

Approved bills

Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	$24.62
Light	7.00
F. D. Barnard & Co., binding	31.60
Arthur T. White, periodicals	27.75
H. H. Crozier, janitor	18.00
A. M. Dunnell, electrical work	3.00
H. R. Huntting Co., books	3.93

F. L. Duley, Secy.

Feb. 12, 1920.

Present Rev. G. L. Thompson, Miss Callender, Mr Duley, Dr. Wood

Election of Officers Dr. N. P. Wood was elected President
Mrs. Catharine Richardson " " Vice-President
F. L. Duley " " Secretary
Dr. Wood, Rev. Thompson & Mr. Duley were elected Executive Committee
Mrs. Richardson, Miss Callender, and Rev. Mr. Thompson were elected Book Com.

Approved

Light	4.27
Northfield Press. Cover posters	2.88
H. H. Crozier, Labor on floors 1.50 and janitor 18.00	19.50
H. M. Bristol, repairs	3.96

Rev. Mr. Thompson authorized to sell our useless books, with compensation for his time

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Dr. Philbrick

Approved

Light	6.09
Mrs. C. A. Randall	54.62
H. H. Crozier	18.00
Arthur T. White, periodicals	11.00
" " " "	23.10

Voted to close the Library evenings Monday, Wed. & Fri. until Thursday, April 15th, on account of coal-supply.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

April 1, 1920.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Duley, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Miss Callender.

Approp.	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian Mch. 1-Apl. 1	$21.87
	H. H. Crosier, janitor, March	18.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

May 6, 1920.

Present Dr. Wood, Miss Callender, Mr. Duley, Rev. Mr. Thompson,

Approp.	Arthur T. White, periodicals	$2.00
	Light	6.75
	Alvin George, tools	19.31
	H. W. Wilson Co., balance on subs.	1.70
	H. H. Crosier, janitor	18.00
	Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian	23.25

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

May 10, 1920

Present Dr. Wood, Miss Callender, Mr. Duley

Voted To renew the insurance on the Library Building at the present rate of $15000, and to double the amount on contents to $4000.

F. L. Duley, Secy.

June 12, 1920

Present Dr. Wood, Miss Callender Dr. Philbrick

Approved Bills

H. H. Crozier,	Janitor Services	May	18.00
Miss C. A. Randall,	Librarian Services	May	27.62
Greenfield C. L. & P. Co.	Lighting	Apr 16 - May 1	3.75
W. L. Butterfield	Books	May 24	8.05
G. O. Dunnell	Coal	Apr 13	12.03
& Wolfe Fiske Co	Books	May 26	4.05

R. H. Philbrick Sec Pro Tem.

July 7, 1920

Present Dr. Wood, Rev. G. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley

Approp.	H. R. Hunting Co, books	3.15
	Mrs. Randall, Librarian, Jan. 1–Jun. 1	27.62
	Sfld. El. Lt. + Pow. Co.	2.85
	W. W. Wilson Co.	1.70

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Aug. 12, 1920.

Present Dr. Wood, Rev. G. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley, Miss Callender

Approp.	Bessie Moore, Library work	12.00
	Mrs C. A. Randall, Librarian	28.50
	H. H. Crozier, Janitor	18.00
	Arthur T. White, Periodicals	16.10
	The Bookstore, books	4.85

Voted to extend vote of thanks to Thomas Capek, 340 East 198th St, N. Y. City, for his book "The Czechs in America."

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Sc. W. 2, 92 1

Present- Dr. V. C. Wood, Miss Gertrude Callender, Judge L. Thompson

Appropriations -

Greenfield Fire Co. [illegible] $ 4.40

Town Crosier Janitor service 18.00

The Gornhill Co 1.79

Mr. Crosier's resignation to go into effect was accepted, and Dr. V. C. Wood was appointed to secure a janitor to take the place of Mr. Crosier.

Approved further

New York Times 4.50

L. Thompson
Sec pro tem

Oct. 7, 1920.

Present. Dr. Wood, Dr. Philbrick, Miss Callender, Mr. Duley.

Minutes of previous meeting read & approved.

Approp.	H. H. Crozier, Janitor	$8.00
	Bessie Moore, asst. librarian work	16.20
	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Aug. 1 – Sept. 1	35.50
	" " " Sept. 1 – Oct. 1	27.62
	Light	4.27
	Arthur T. White, Sept. 20th bill	
	" magazine subscrip.	8.00

Dr. Wood reported the securing of John Dale to succeed Mr. H. H. Crozier.

Motion made by Dr. Philbrick that beginning with Oct 12th the Library be kept open on Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday afternoons and evenings.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

November 4, 1920

Present —
Mr. V. C. Wood, Mrs. Richardson
Miss Callender, Mr. Thompson

Bills ahthorized
Randall
C. A. ~~C. A.~~ Richardson - library 22.00
John F. Dale - janitor 18.00
W. N. Butterfield - books 12.83
The Telegram Press - " 13.00
Smith & Whitaker - " 6.75
W. N. Butterfield - " 2.62
Town of Public Safety - inspection 2.00
Greenfield Gas Light - electricity 6.61

Communications read from —
State of Massachusetts - Department of Education
Miss Henrietta M. Brigham, Marlboro, Mass. Confirming warming plant.

George F. Thompson
Secretary.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. G. L. Thompson, Miss Callender, F. L. Dudley.

Appropriations

		$
Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian Nov. 1 - Dec. 1		18.87
John Dale, Jr. janitor Nov.		18.00
Otis S. Fisher, 2 loads of wood		22.00
Light		.60
Rev. G. L. Thompson, postage		2.00
McGraw-Hill Book Co., book		3.00

F. L. Dudley, Sec'y.

Motion On motion of Rev. G. L. Thompson the Trustees committee ~~was~~ to serve as a committee of the whole to take steps about purchasing the three collections of minerals, etc., in the reading room.

F. L. Dudley, Sec'y.

Special Meeting Dec. 18, 1920.

Present Dr. N. S. Wood, Rev. G. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley, Miss Callender,

Library Trustees voted to accept the temporary custody of the Catholic Encyclopaedia, the property of the Northfield Amer. Legion, until they can find a home for it.

Voted to leave decision of closing Library, on account of coal shortage, to the Chairman.

Approp. John Martin, books & mag. $6.75
H. W. Wilson " 6.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. N. S. Wood, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Mrs. Richardson, F. L. Duley, Dr. Philbrick.

Appropriations

Arthur T. White, magazines	19.90
" " "	27.75
John T. Dale, Jr., janitor for Dec.	18.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian, Dec. 1-Jan. 1	12.00
Mc Graw-Hill Book Co., book	3.00
~~G. O. Donnell, coal deliv. Nov. 22, 1000 #16~~	~~2.00~~
E. O. Dunnell	
" " " " " 13, 0320 #15.50	25.73
" " " " " Dec. 3, 3150 # "	24.42
Light	4.27
Amer. Forestry Association, 2 yrs.' subscrip.	6.00
	141.07

Motion was made by Rev. E. L. Thompson that the S. E. basement room be used by the Handicraft Club which has recently been organized by the Boy Rangers in conjunction with the Franklin County Farm Bureau, and the Mass. Agric. Col. Extension Service, under proper supervision.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

Feb. 3, 1921.

Present. Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Miss Callender, F. L. Duley, Dr. Philbrick.

		$
Approp.	Mrs C. A. Randall, Jan 1 – Feb. 1	19.50
	John Callaghan, 3 loads of wood	30.00
	Otis A. Fisher, 2 " " "	22.00
	Northfield Seminary, 1 " " coal	26.24 ~~11.90~~
	John T. Dale, janitor service	18,00
	Gertrude Callender, asst. librarian service	7.50
	" " " "	.62
	" " 1 book	1.00
	Alvan George, " "	1.50
	F. I. Barnard, binding	46.20
	Amer. Asiatic Association, subscription	3.50

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Miss Callender, Mrs. C. C. Stockbridge, F. L. Duley.

Organization Dr. N. P. Wood was elected President
F. L. Duley " " Secretary
Mrs. C. L. Richardson " " vice-Chairman

Appropriations

Alvin George, books	6.45
Boates' Pub. Co., atlas	2.50
Scientific American, subscription	6.00
Mrs. C. R. Randall, librarian	18.00
John Dale, janitor	18.00
Thomas Dinlan, wood	3.00
C. E. Williams, snow-shovel	1.25
G. O. Dunnell, coal	27.44
Light	6.22

Book Com. Mrs. Richardson, Miss Callender, & Rev. E. L. Thompson elected as Book Committee.

F. L. Duley, Sec'y.

April 7, 1921

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Mrs. C. C. Stockbridge, F. L. Duley, Miss Callender.

Approp.	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	$21.
	John Dale, Jr., janitor	18.
	Light	2.85
	Alvin George, books	4
	Doubleday, Page & Co., subscription	4.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. N. S. Wood, Rev. G. L. Thompson, Miss Callender, F. L. Duley.

Approp.	John Dale, Jr., janitor	$ 18.
	Mrs. Randall, librarian	15.
	Miss Gertrude Callender, substitute librarian	4.50
	Light	3.60

Voted to run the Library on standard time.

Voted to instruct the Chairman to arrange for painting of the fire-escape and repair the hitching-posts.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

June 2, 1921.

Pres. Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Miss Callender, F. L. Duley

Approp. Light $2.55
John Dale, janitor 18.00
G. N. Kidder, 1 gal. paint for fire escapes 1.00
Spencer's Garage, express .50
Lovell & Telfer, 1 lawnmower 20.00
Mrs. Randall, librarian 18.00
Nellie Cady, subscriptions 5.00
Smith & McCance, books 5.80
Alvin George, " 12.50
Hochschild, Kohn & Co, book .75

Voted to open the library week-day afternoons during July & August.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. N. O. Wood, George L. Thompson, and Miss Gertrude Callender.

App. Alvin George 9.75
Mrs. C. A. Randall 15.00
John F. Dale 18.00
Greenfield Elec L. & P. Co. to June 16, 2.10
Bridgman & Lyman 2.31
Geo. W. Ridder 1.00
R. H. White Company 8.00

Voted that the window casings be painted and sashes drawn as needed.

Geo. L. Thompson

August 4, 1921

Present at meeting
N. P. Wood
G. L. Thompson
Mrs. Richardson
" Stockbridge
Miss Callender

Bills approved:

George N. Kidder	$ 10.15
Mrs. C. V. Randall	22.50
John T. Dale	18.00
U. S. Times	10.00
Greenfield Elec. L. & Power Co (to July 14)	3.00
Gertrude Callender	21.00
Greenfield Recorder	2.00
W. A. Butterfield	2.60
Smith & McCance	11.00
Republican Pub. Co	8.00

Voted and carried that the certain sticks be repaired.

Voted that 25 placards be printed and posted informing the public

of the Library hours. Carried

R. D. Thompson Sec-Pro tem

Sept. 8, 1921

Present Rev. E. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley, Miss Callender.

Approved

Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian	$ 41.50
John Dale, janitor	18.00
Light	4.66
Fred Hale	66.30
Mrs. Nellie Cady, magazine subscriptions	19.00
H. R. Huntting Co., book	2.07
" " " " books	4.77
" " " " "	10.00
Ralph Durham Co., 1 yr of Amer. Educator	9.50
Library Book House	12.25
F. C. Stechert Co., books	3.32
E. N. Kidder, supplies	3.30

F. L. Duley Sec.

Oct. 6, 1921.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. E. L. Thompson, Mrs. C. C. Stockbridge, F. L. Duley.

Approval of bills approved at previous meeting and returned it was voted to pay the following:

Fred Hale	$15.00
Elec. Lt.	8.93
Ralph Durham	9.50
Library Book House	12.05
	$45.48

$51.07
45.48
$5.59

F. L. Duley, Secy.

Nov. 3, 1921

Present. Prof. F. L. Duley, Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. George L. Thomson, Mrs. C. C. Stockbridge, and ~~Miss L.~~ Miss Gertrude Callender.

Minutes read and approved.

The debt ~~was discovered~~ then discussed.

On motion of F. L. Duley it was voted to leave the matter of the debt to the town accountant and the selectmen to devise some means of settlement.

The following bills were presented and approved

H. M. Bristol		$3.50
Mrs. C. N. Randall		19.50
Deerfield Elec. L. & Power Co		8.93
John Dale & Co.	October service	18.00
Alfred Halton		2.70
John Dale		18.00
Alvin George - books		7.25
New Republic -		6.50

Voted that the secretary with Mr. & Mrs Silas Bailey thanking them for gift of books.

December 1, 1921

Present - Mrs. Stockbridge, Mr. Thompson, Miss Culle[illegible]

Voted to approve all bills presented.

Voted to accept the portrait of Dr. Elijah Stratton as a gift to the library.

Voted to move certain pictures and documents to make room for the new gift and to better preserve the pictures.

Approved Bills:

Evans Brothers for wood	$4.50
John Dale	18.
Mrs. Randall	18.
Ralph Durham Co. for Amer. Educator	3.00
	43.50

~~F. C. Stechert Co. books 3.32~~

J. V. Callender

Sec. Pro tem.

Present Mrs. Stockbridge, Miss Callender, Rev. E. L. Thompson, F. L. Duley.

Appropriations

Light bill, Oct. 17 – Nov. 16	4.28
" " Nov. 16 – Dec. 22	4.28
H. Robert Hoyt, Printing	3.10
John T. Dale, janitor	15.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall	15.00
Alvin George, books	3.60

F. L. Duley,
Secretary.

Feb. 2, 1922

Present Mrs. Stockbridge, Mr. Thompson, Miss Callender

Appropriation

John Hile - Jan. $18.
Mrs. Randall - Sept to Jan. 39.
Nellie Cady - Magazines 12.75
Arthur White " .95
H.M. Wright - repair 10.50
H.W. Wilson Co. - Index 7.75
Ralph Graham Co. 6.00
Century Hist. Co. - Hist of Vt. 25.00
$116.20

G. B. Callender
Sec. Trustees.

Mar 2, 1922.

Present Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Stobridge, Mr. Thompson, Miss Callender.

Voted to defer organization till a full committee is present.

Approved

Alvin George	- bulbs	3.25
" "	books	1.80
John Callaghan	- 2 hrs. work	1.00
Nellie Cady	Recorder Phonograph	4.50
Northfield El. L & P. Co. Dec. 22 - Feb 23		6.36
John Dale		18.00
Mrs. Crandall		1.5[illegible]
Northfield Water Co.		7.00
		66.66

Voted to create the office of accountant to keep itemized statement of all appropriations.

G. B. Callender
Sec. Pro Tem.

April 6, 1922

Present.

Miss Callender, G. L. Thompson

Bills Approved.

Mrs. C. N. Randall		$ 21.00
John Dale - Janitor		18.00
W. A. Butterfield -	Books	2.50
National Geographic Society -	magazen	3.00
Smith & McCance -	books	5.34

Present Miss Callender, Rev. G. L. Thompson, Dr. N. P. Wood, F. L. Duley, Mrs. Stockbridge.

Approved Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian

April 1 - May,	$19.50
John F. Dale, janitor, April	18.00
Miss Nellie Cody, magazine subscriptions	16.97
F. A. Irish, supplies	1.43
G. L. Thompson, life of Woodrow Wilson	2.00
Ralph Durham Co., books	9.00

Organization Secretary authorized to cast a ballot for the same officers as last year.

Dr. N. P. Wood, Rev. G. L. Thompson + F. L. Duley, Exec. Com.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Pres. — Dr. N. P. Wood.
Vice-Pres - Mrs. C. S. Richardson
Sec. — F. L. Duley

June 1, 1922.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Mr. Duley, Miss Callender.

Approp.	John T. Dale, Janitor	18.00
	F. C. Steckert Co, book	1.22

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood Miss Callender, F. L. Duley.

Approp.	John T. Dale janitor	$ 15.00
	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	37.00
	C. S. Hammond & Co. Atlas	40.00
	Gertrude Callender, ass't librarian	13.50
	H. R. Hunting Co, books	2.73
	" " " "	1.75
	" " " " "	3.70
	" " " " "	9.75
	" " " " "	13.52
	" " " " "	1.75
	" " " "	1.75
	Dunster House Bookshop, books	1.40
	Ralph Durham Co, "	3.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

The Committee accepted with regret the oral resignation of Miss Callender.

August 3, 1922

Present - Dr. N. P. Wood & George L. Thompson

Approved bills as follows:

Mrs. C. A. Randall - services for July	$	18.00
John Dale - " " "		18.00
Greenfield Recorder to Feb. 14, 1923 subscription		2.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall - History of Northfield		5.00
F. J. Barnard & Co. - for book binding		51.05
Alvin George books		6.30
Northfield Press - printing and paper		4.80

George L. Thompson
Sec. pro tem.

September 7, 1922.

Present, Dr. W. P. Ward, J. F. Bittinger, Mrs. C. J. Sluckridge and Mrs. H. P. Ward.

Secretary's report read and approved.

Approved bills as follows:-

Mrs C. A. Randall for August	$19.50
Isobel Sutherland, Substitute	$9.00
John Tait, janitor "	$[illegible]
Alvin Gerrye Books	$14.67
F. C. Slechert Co. Inc Book	$1.22
The Northfield Water Co.	$6.33

The Cash book was given to Mrs. Bittinger to keep the account. He was directed to [illegible] the Town Treasurer for amount [illegible] for Library purposes and

On motion duly seconded, Dr. Ward was instructed to secure rent for the Library.

Mabel H. Ward
Secretary pro tem.

Bill approved for Electric Light to Sept. 15 -- $2.92

October 5, 1722

Present Dr. N. P. Ward; J. F. Billinger and Nellie M. Ward.

Records of last meeting read and approved.

Approved bills as follows:

Miss Nellie Cady for Books	$12.00
A. R. Hunting Co.	$1.80
John T. Dale Janitor	$18.00
Mrs C. A. Randall Librarian	$16.50
The Ralph Dunham Co.	9.00

On motion duly seconded it was voted to secure a suitable stool for use in the Stacks room.

On motion, Seconded it was voted to procure lamps for the desk.

Nellie M. Ward.
Sec. pro tem.

Present. Dr. N. O. Wood, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Stockbridge, Mr. Duley.

Approved	Mrs. C. A. Randall, Librarian	$19.50
	Ralph Durham Co., books	3.00
	John T. Dale, janitor	18.00
	Light	3.27
	Evans Bros, Wood	6.00
	Boiler inspection	2.00
	S. O. Dunnell, 16670# @ 11.50, coal	95.85
		$147.62

Dec. 14, 1922

Meeting postponed from Dec. 7.

Present: Dr N. P. Wood, J. F. Bettinger

Bills approved:

F. A. Irish, paper and C. Cedar.	1.32
J. M. Anderson, jr. ker,	1.25
Hanson-Bennett Co. magazines	14.35
Mrs. C. A. Randall,	17.50
J. T. Dale	18.00
Hunting Co. Books	100.69

Feb. 1, 1923.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Mrs. Stockbridge Mr. Duley.

Approp.	Mrs. Randall, librarian	15.5
	" Fred Hale, ass't "	6.00
	Geo. N. Kidder, floor brush	2.50
	Ralph Durham Co., bal. on set of books	3.00
	Henry R. Hunting Co., books	49.25

Voted to authorize the Chairman to send $5 out of Library book-fine money as a gift to the Library of Louvain through the Mass. Lib. Club.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, J. F. Dettinger, Mrs. Stockbridge, Mrs. Wood, Mr. Duley.

Approp.

G. N. Kidder & Co., brush		2.50
John T. Dale janitor		18.00
Ofld. El. Lt. & Pow. Co., Nov. 16 - Dec. 14	~~fd.~~ ord. Dec. 27	3.~~88~~ 50
Ralph Durham Co., date of Dec. 15 metal on books		3.00
F. H. Doolittle, wood		18.00
Mrs. Fred Hale, asst. librarian		9.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall, "		10.50

~~The janitor, John T. Dale~~
Resignation of John T. Dale, as janitor accepted.

Voted to employ Wm. Bigott as janitor.

F. L. Duley,
Secretary.

~~June 7, 1923~~

~~Present Dr. R. P. Wood, F. L. Dudley, et al~~

July 5, 1923.

Present Mrs. R. P. Wood, Mrs. C. C. Stockbridge, Mr. Dudley

Approp.	Wm. T. Pigott, janitor	12.00
	" " " load of dirt	2.00
	Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian	19.50
	Alvin George, books	32.88

F. L. Dudley, Sec.

Voted to authorize Dr. Wood to arrange for repairs to the gutters.

Aug. 2, 1923.

Present: Dr. J. F. [illegible], Mrs. Richardson
[illegible] Stockbridge, Mrs. [illegible], [illegible]

Approved.

F. A. Barnard	Binding	38.60
J. Hanson-Bennett	Lynds Cum.	4.00
" " "	Harpers	6.50
C. E. Williams	Hardware	1.10
Mrs. C. A. Randall	Librarian	19.50
Wm Padgett	Janitor 18.00 Coal 1.00	19.00
American Forestry	Magazine	5.00

Voted to discontinue the American Forestry magazine Jan. 1923.

Nellie [illegible]
Sec. pro tem.

March 1st 1923

Present Dr H P Wood, Mrs H P Wood, Mrs J F Bettinger
Mrs C C Stockbridge -
Moved by Mrs Bettinger that Dr Wood serve as Chairman. carried -
Moved by Mrs Stockbridge that Mrs Duley serve as Secretary - carried -

Bills - Approved

Mrs C. A. Randall	(work)	19.50
Mrs J. F. Bettinger	(stamps)	1.40
G C Duncell	(coal)	42.76
H. W. Wilson	(readers guide)	7.70

Book committee. Mrs Richardson. Mrs Wood Mrs Bettinger.
Executive committee Dr Wood Mrs Duley Mrs Stockbridge -

Adjourned
C. C. Stockbridge
Sec. pro tem -

April 5, 1923

Present Dr. N. P. Ward, Mrs. N. F. Ward, J. F. Butler ex

Records of March meeting read and approved

Bills.

approved.

Mrs. C. A. Randall.	Janitress	$ 11.38
Mrs. Fred Hale	"	$ 8.12
Nellie M. Ward	Magazines	$ 7.51
Alvin George Burke		$ 17.32
Northfield Press	Labels	$ 3.25
H. T. Pigott	Lumber for Jan. Feb. & March	$ 47.—
G. A. Dunnell	Coal	$ 57.90

Voted to instruct the janitor to purchase a mop wringer.

Adjourned

Nellie M Ward.

Sec. pro tem.

May 4, 1923.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Mrs. Wood, J. F. Bettenger, F. L. Duley.

Minutes of last meeting read & approved.

Approprias-tions		$
	Alvin George, books	18.80
	C. E. Baxter, janitor service	6.50
	F. T. Pigott, "	12.00
	Mrs. Fred Hale, library assistant	7.50
	" C. A. Randall, librarian	12.00

The Trustees acknowledge the gift by Dan R. Hamilton of a folio volume entitled "The Growth of Industrial Art."

The Trustees acknowlldge the gift by Rev. M. Kolbe of 9 volumes on various subjects.

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Dec 7, 1923

Board [illegible] met in regular session [illegible]

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Appropriations

American Library Ass'n.		2.50
Mrs. C. A. Randall	Librarian	13.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	6.50
[illegible]	Magazine	3.50
Nellie M. Wood	"	12.50
N. T. Pigott	Janitor	18.00
Secret Service	Investigation	1.50
H. A. Reading & Co.	Books	2.85

Nellie M. Wood
Sec. pro tem.

Adj. p.m.

Sept. 6, 1923

Present Dr. N.P. Wood and J.F. Bittinger

Records of last meeting read and approved

Following bills were approved for payment

Northfield Water Co., Feb 1 to Aug 1.	$15.41
H.M. Bristol bill of Aug. 22,	38.80
Cement Block Garage, repairs	5.40
Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian, August	8.75
Mrs. Fred Hale asst. librarian, August	10.75
Wm Pigott, janitor and extra labor	20.23
J.F. Bittinger labor on drain pipe	2.00

J.F. Bittinger, sec. pro tem.

Oct. 4, 1923.

Present: Mrs. N. P. Wood, Mrs. C. C. Stockbridge, Mr. Bittinger, Mr. Duley.

Appropriations:

William Sigott, janitor	$18.00
Mrs. C. A. Randall, librarian	13.50
" Fred Hale, substitute	6.00
S. O. Dunnell, coal	238.14
C. S. Hammond & Co., supplies	5.80
Henry Bassett, wood	16.87
Alfred F. Foote, boiler inspection	2.00

Voted to instruct Mrs. Randall to ~~report~~ communicate with the Library Commission in regard to securing a competent agent to weed out our Library.

F. L. Duley,
Secretary.

P.S. Voted to allow the Historical Society to use north room, upstairs, for deposit of their property.

Trustees Meeting Nov. 1, 1923.

Present Dr. N. P. Wood, Mrs. Wood, Mr. J. F. Bittinger, Mr. Duley.

Approved	To N. B. Dresser, sawing wood	$3.00
	Mrs. Randall, Librarian	19.50
	Wm. Pigott, janitor	20.00
	J. R. Hanson - Bennett Magazine Agency, subscriptions	1.60
	H. W. Bristol, repairs	1.15
	J. F. Bittinger, to boarding Miss Tillinghast of Mass. Lib. Commission	23.00
	Hart & Hallett, wood 7625	8.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Gazette & Courier.

GREENFIELD, JUNE 17, 1899.

Our Free Public Libraries.

The ninth report of the Free Public Library commission of Massachusetts, 1899, just at hand, is a most interesting bound volume of 465 pages and illustrated with nearly 150 half and full-page cuts made from photographs of library buildings throughout the State. Among the library buildings chosen by the commission for illustration are these in Franklin county:—Ashfield public library, Cushman library at Bernardston, Buckland free library, Charlemont public library and town hall, Conway town hall and library, Heath free public library and Dickinson Memorial library at Northfield.

In a prefatory note Henry Stedman Nourse of Lancaster, member of the State's free public library commission, says:—

One important object for which the free public library commission was created by the act of 1890, namely, the founding of free libraries in such towns as had none, seems near accomplishment; and the closing of the century is an appropriate time to take note of the progress made in a branch of educational work in which Massachusetts has always been the pioneer. In 1839 the Hon. Horace Mann, then secretary of the board of education, stated, as the result of a careful effort to obtain authentic information relative to the libraries of the State, that there were from 10 to 15 town libraries, containing in the aggregate from 3000 to 4000 volumes, to which all of the citizens of the town had the right of access; that the number of volumes in the public libraries of all kinds in the State was about 300,000; and that but little more than 100,000 persons, or one-seventh of the population of the State, had any right of access to them. . . . The year 1898 closed with but eight in the State without free library privileges. These have a population of 12,495, or less than one-half of one per cent. of the State's inhabitants by the census of 1895. Six of them show a loss in population between 1890 and 1895. The number of books in the free libraries of the Commonwealth is three and three-fourths millions, which is about one and one-half volumes to each inhabitant. The circulation for home use in 12 months is seven and two-thirds millions, or a little over three volumes to each inhabitant.

In a list of towns having a large number of books in proportion to their population Bernardston has seventh place, with 7.7 volumes per capita. Towns reporting exceptionally large circulation for home use include Warwick, eleventh in the list, 7.5 volumes per capita, and Bernardston, sixteenth, 6.8 volumes per capita. Among the 14 towns named as having each two free public libraries are Deerfield, with its Dickinson at Old Deerfield and its Free Public at South Deerfield, and Shelburne with its Arms and Free Public. The text of the volume is made up of descriptions of all the free, and many other libraries of the State. All the libraries in this county are fully and accurately described, with history of founding, growth and statements as to present condition and the following are noted in a list of "givers of free public library buildings in Massachusetts:"—Ashfield, gift of Mrs. Eliza W. Field; Bernardston, gift of Hon. Henry W. Cushman; Charlemont, gift of E. R. Goodnow and other citizens; Deerfield, bequest of Mrs. Esther Dickinson; Northfield, gift of Elijah M. Dickinson of Fitchburg; Sunderland, built mainly by subscription.

Massachusetts' Free Libraries.

Less than one person in 500 in Massachusetts resides in a town that has not a free library. This is less than one-half of one per cent. There are but seven towns in the state without such a library, and of these Nantucket is the only town of considerable size, 3,016. The next largest is Dracutt, which is to all intents and purposes a part of Lowell. Another was organized as a town but a year or two ago, and Gay Head has but 169 inhabitants, all told.

There are 269 towns with free public libraries owned and controlled by the town, and free for circulation to all people, There are thirty-five others in which the town divides the responsibility for management with private boards of trustees, and twenty-six others to which the town makes appropriation, but leaves the management to private boards of trustees, making in all 330 free town libraries. There are fourteen free libraries in towns that have no part in their support or management.

All in all, there are 687 secular circulating and reference libraries in Massachusetts, containing 6,511,700 books and pamphlets, valued at $9,875,760. There are also 1,344 religious and Sunday school libraries, with 856,064 volumes, valued at $510,092.

The Massachusetts library commission, C. B. Tillinghast, chairman, has issued a beautiful report on the free public libraries of Massachusetts (ninth), a volume of 459 pages, with fine pictures of 125 public library buildings. It contains a list of all prominent donors to libraries and a history of the founding of each library, an account of its working, and a description of the buildings and social condition of the community. It is by far the most important work of the kind ever issued.

Why Not Town Historians?

Suggestions of the Gazette Approved and New Ones Offered.

Editor Gazette & Courier: Dear Sir,—I would like to say a few words in regard to the editorial in your last issue, appropos of local history, but before doing so, wish to express my appreciation of your editorial notes each week. Clear, logical, dispassionate and progressive, they strike the keynote of truth every time, and as a critique of current events are a beacon light to your readers.

In regard to the question of public schools, as presented in your issue of the 7th of this month, the conclusions arrived at are certainly very true. Individuality is the soul of genius; its development marks a higher grade of culture and of civilization, and any method of education, public or private, that fails to recognize this important factor in the instruction of children, is lacking in the essentials of true success. It has also been often demonstrated that many a teacher amply qualified by learning to instruct, has failed utterly in her chosen calling because lacking in the sympathetic element that recognizes and utilizes the individual characteristics and tastes of those children under her charge. Again, a school board make a sad mistake in hiring inexperienced teachers, because they are "cheaper" than those more in demand. A large percentage of such schools are in a "cheap" condition at the close of the term.

Now a word in regard to local history and I will close. I would most warmly second any movement or method that should stimulate interest in this line and preserve to us and to our children a record of the past and present. One by one the aged inhabitants of our country towns pass over the river, and too often with them fade away the interesting reminiscences and local history of events and changes and become shrouded in oblivion. The fateful years that mark the growth or progress, the changing scenes, the historic incidents of a village leave no record if the zealous historian has not jotted down from time to time, or procured from other witnesses and sources, the pulsings of the life of the town. Would it not be well for each town to appoint a historian, to gather up all this information from all available sources, or if the town be so fortunate as to possess a history, to continue the record so happily begun? Thus embalmed in type, nothing would be lost, and material for instructing the young in local history would always be at hand.

Too swiftly passing on, we scarcely heed
The lessons of the past. In selfish greed
We search the present and the future scan,
But miss the parent source, where all began.

WARWICK.

Warwick, Sept. 16, 1895.

Freer Use of Libraries.

Editor of the Traveller.

In that part of the annual reports of Harvard College which pertains to the library, a suggestion is made that should meet the opposition of every friend of the college and every lover of learning. It is to the effect that the facility of access to the shelves should be diminished rather than increased. The reason given is that some volumes are wrongfully taken from the library without being returned, and others are misplaced, by those who have "admission cards" allowing them access to the stack. It appears that since 1883 these cards have been granted to 1573 students, an average of 225 a year, and that 149 books missed from the stack in these seven years, are yet unaccounted for. This fact by itself might justify restriction of the privilege were it not much more than offset by the figures about the reserved books, kept in the alcoves of the reading and delivery rooms, to which everybody that enters the library has access, and which any kleptomaniac, whether a student of the college or not, could easily purloin. Of these books, numbering now nearly 15,000, only 141 have disappeared. There is no record kept of the number of people using these books, but it is safe to say that in the course of a year 1000 different persons handle one or more of them, several hundred students use them frequently, and several thousand visitors go within arm's reach of them. Yet in seven years only 141, or 20 a year, have been stolen.

These figures have something more than a merely local bearing. They testify that the people who use books can be trusted. The percentage of dishonesty among them is even smaller than these figures indicate, for doubtless the greater part of these disappearances was due to carelessness. The money loss to the library was trifling in comparison with the good done by letting the students get at the books. It would be a misfortune if because of this money loss the uses of the library should be more hampered. The great fault of all public and private libraries today is in just this sort of restriction. Every man who goes to them is treated as a possible thief. On the contrary, there as everywhere men should be treated as innocent till they are proved guilty. Surely these figures do not justify the assumption that book users as a class have been proved guilty. The Harvard library has taken a long step in the right direction by making so many reference books accessible. No public library has gone so far, and in almost every one there is no book at all except the catalogue where any one can get hold of it.

Who own the public libraries? The trustees and the librarians?

The trouble is that the wrong spirit pervades these institutions. Those who have them in charge come to think that one of the chief reasons for their existence, perhaps the very chief, is the accumulation of books. Many a librarian thinks his or her main duty to be the preservation of the volumes. Too often is overlooked the prime object of any library, and really its only defensible object, and that may be put in one word, "use." Better have a hundred books stolen, than a hundred thousand not used. Better take one person's time in keeping the books in order, than inconvenience a hundred persons who could be helped by the right to handle the books. For the very handling of books is an education. No one course at Harvard will do any student so much good as would the time it takes if spent in rummaging and exploring among its library shelves.

The acquisition of facts is a slight matter compared with the acquisition of the knowledge how to get at facts. The most learned man can remember but an infinitesimal part of the world's knowledge. He is the fortunate student who has learned where this knowledge is stored, ready for his use when he needs it.

Of themselves, books are of no more use than postage stamps, butterflies, or anything else one may have a mania for collecting. Yet, our libraries appear to be conducted with the belief that it is worth while to spend the money of cities or colleges on paper museums, and that the best library is the one with the most specimens.

On the contrary, the best library is the one that gets itself most used. If it have the more books for use, so much the better, but only if they are for use and are used. And how can they be much of well used, if the would-be user must always stand on the outside a rail and get at them only by means of a catalogue? The very make-up of a catalogue presupposes familiarity with the books. Of what help, then, is it to the people who are not familiar with the books they want?

Every school and every college ought to teach the use of books. None do.

Every librarian ought to think it his or her first duty to guide in the use of books. Few do.

Every library ought to invite, rather than repel, to encourage, rather than restrict. The people should be permitted to feel that they are in their libraries not on sufferance, but with the rights of proprietors, and the obligations only of copartners. The officials are paid to be inconvenienced. That is what they are there for.

ROBERT LUCE.

AUG. 13, 1898.

For a Public Museum at Northfield.

To the Gazette & Courier:—The trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library take this method of again soliciting from the citizens of Northfield and others interested in the town, the gift or loan of articles suitable to be placed in the beautiful and commodious building recently dedicated. While many articles have been promised and will soon be put on exhibition, we are confident that there are many others which deserve to be added to this interesting collection. Implements, utensils, furniture, arms, accoutrements, coins and ornaments of the olden time may be mentioned to give an idea of what is wanted. An old map of Franklin county is especially desired. Books, pamphlets, sermons and other documents printed or in manuscript, having a local interest are earnestly solicited; also portraits, drawings, plans, programmes, curious advertisements, printed obituaries, relics of the civil war, files of town reports and the county newspapers.

As an illustration of what we are doing and desire co-operation that we may carry on indefinitely it may be mentioned that there will soon be placed in the building more than 400 Botanical specimens found within the limits of Northfield, a scrap-book containing all the Northfield items published in the Greenfield Gazette & Courier for many years, and a rare collection of Indian deeds and the papers bearing on the early history of the towns. A large and valuable collection of minerals will also be placed there as soon as the nominal sum asked for it can be raised.

We appeal to every resident of Northfield and every son and daughter of the town wherever living to aid us in our efforts to establish an attractive and instructive museum in the hall and adjoining rooms which Mr. Dickinson has generously provided for the purpose in the building which he has erected.

Every article accepted will be properly labeled and acknowledgment of it made.

N. P. WOOD,
GEO. F. PIPER,
H. W. RANKIN,
C. H. GREEN,
H. W. MONTAGUE,
MRS. R. K. CALDWELL,
Trustees.

Northfield, Mass., Aug. 8th, 1898.

Present Dr. Wood, Mr. Stockbridge, Mr. Bittinger, Mr. Duley.

Approved To Wm. Pigott, janitor $18.00
" Mrs. Randall, librarian 13.50
" " Fred Hale, asst " 15.00
H. W. Wilson, subsc. to Period. Lit. Guide 7.00
Harrison-Bennett Mag. Agency, subscription 1.10

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Dec. 27, 1923.

Present Dr. N. B. Wood, Mr. Bittinger, Mr. Duley

Approved To Martin A. Jones, trimming trees $10.00
" Wm. Pigott, janitor 18.00
" " " work on trees + gutter in one bill 6.00
" " " " " " roof (Ouellette) 3.00
" Waldo K. Stebbins, labor & material 7.50
" Mr. Bittinger, board for State Library Agent 2.00

F. L. Duley, Sec.

Mrs. E. H. Brown.
" Wood
~~" Richardson~~
" L. R. Smith
" Duley
" A. G. Moody
Miss Thompson
Mrs. G. R. Callender
" C. H. Webster
Mrs. Leon Alexander
" Warner
" Coe
" C. C. Stearns
" Fred Holton
" Roberts
Miss Ball
" Minot

$456.75